



HONoured

Medal to be presented to former airman



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ROSY RED

New lick of paint for town's landmark



PAGE 4

Town has defied the trend on shut shops

MORE shops closed down than opened in the town centres of the Black Country last year — but Stourbridge bucked the trend.

In total, there were 371 new store openings and 524 closures across the Black Country and Staffordshire as retailers responded to the rise of online shopping.

The net loss of 153 shops was worse than 2013 when it was 76.

The research from the Local Data Company for accountants PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) found that Dudley saw 11 closures and two openings. But in Stourbridge town centre it remained steady with five closures cancelled out by five openings.

Wolverhampton had a greater net loss with 35 closures and 14 openings.

Rob Hunt, restructuring partner at PwC in the West Midlands, said: "This year's numbers expose the harsh impact of 'macro' changes on the high street, especially in certain sub-sectors — increasing regulation for money shops, the advance of technology for some phone operators and the continued shift to the internet in the clothing sector."

He added: "Despite the benign economy, the net loss of shops has accelerated."

Train death man was 48

A MAN who was killed having been struck by a train in the Black Country was a 48-year-old from Wolverhampton, it has been confirmed.

The man was hit near Dudley Port station at 12.05pm last Wednesday, March 11.

British Transport Police spokesman Dominic Sutton said the man's next of kin had been informed. He added officers were not treating his death as suspicious and were preparing a report for the coroner.

REGULARS RALLY TO PROTECT PUB

PLANS to build a convenience store on a Stourbridge pub car park would increase traffic on an already busy road, worried residents say.

The Hare & Hounds, in Wynall Lane, Wollescote, is among a number of pubs sold by Marston's Brewery and taken on by property investment firm New River Retail.

While bosses from the firm do not want to close the pub, they do propose to build a Co-operative store on part of the car park.

Landlord Lee Sargeant, 45, is battling the plans saying it would leave him with just six car parking spaces, effectively killing his trade.

More than 60 residents packed into a public meeting held at the pub on Monday night to show their opposition to the scheme.

People said there had already been a number of accidents along the road and fear the store would increase the amount of traffic.

Others said that if the pub was forced to close it would destroy their social lives.

Concern

Stephen Burley, 61, of Brook Crescent, said: "My main concern is about traffic and safety. It will be right next to a very tight and dangerous junction. It is just not the right place for a shop."

Frank and Denise Cragg, of Seymour Road, said they were also concerned about the scheme.

Mr Cragg, 50, an engineer, said: "If there are only going to be a limited number of spaces for the pub then where are the people using the convenience store going to park? They are going to start parking up along the road outside and in nearby

By Lee Watton

streets, right outside people's homes. This is already a busy road and this is going to make the problem worse. It will be an accident waiting to happen."

Mrs Cragg, 48, a teaching assistant, added: "The pub is important to the community of this area. People hold their wedding receptions and other family events here. It is a social hub for this area and no-one wants to see it put at risk."

Sarah Smith, 31, of Amos Road, said the pub held a number of charity events throughout the year. The pub had already raised £5,000 for the Air Ambulance and £2,400 for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

"If there is nowhere to park then people will not come. It will mean charities will miss out," she said.

Roy Foxall, 68, of Grove Road, has been a regular at the Hare & Hounds for 50 years. "If it wasn't here it would destroy the social life of a lot of people," he said.

Mr Sargeant said he was delighted with the amount of support with around 300 people already signing a petition opposing the plan.

"I would like to thank everyone who attended the meeting," he said. "Hopefully the campaign is going to grow and grow."

Talented teenager accepted by top school



Reflecting on success is 15-year-old Sophie Harris, of Pensnett, who has her sights set on a stage career

A TALENTED musical theatre student has earned a place at a prestigious performing arts school in London.

Former ArtsEd students include film stars Julie Andrews and Catherine Zeta-Jones, ballerina Darcey Bussell, singer Will Young and West End star Bonnie Langford.

Sophie Harris, 15, of Pensnett, successfully auditioned for the Arts Educational Schools in Chiswick and recently received a letter offering her a place.

The youngster, from Cam Gardens, said it 'was a dream come true' and the culmination of everything she has

been working towards since she set her sights on the stage aged six. Sophie has been studying musical theatre at Birmingham Ormiston Academy.

Proud mum Vanessa said now her daughter had been offered a place at the school it was a matter of finding the money to pay for her tuition.

Funding

"Because she is only 15 there is not the funding available as there would be if she were university age," she said. "We are looking to get the money together so she can attend. If not, she would have to wait a couple of years

before auditioning again when grants would be available."

"When the letter came Sophie actually cried. She said it was everything she had been working towards since she was a child."

To be offered the place, the youngster had to perform two monologues and two songs at an audition.

Mrs Harris said: "She went down to the audition on Friday the 13th, which is actually lucky for Sophie."

"She was born on Friday the 13th and also successfully auditioned for the Birmingham Ormiston Academy on a Friday 13th."

Villa fan's precious collection is stolen

A HAUL of precious Aston Villa Football Club programmes, including one signed by the European Cup winning side, has been taken in a burglary near Stourbridge.

Thieves forced their way in through a rear window of a home in Hockley Brook Lane, Belbroughton.

Match programmes stolen from the address dated back to the 1950s and 60s.

Of particular interest is a match day programme from the 1982 European Cup Final between Aston Villa and Bayern Munich.

Winning

West Mercia Police say this programme has been signed by all members of the winning Aston Villa team, which makes it a much sought after item.

A spokesman for the force said: "The injured party has worked hard to make this distinctive collection of programmes, which he has collected over numerous years."

The burglary happened between 4pm on March 7 and 3pm on March 9. It is unclear at this stage if the burglary was carried out by more than one individual.

Anyone with any information is asked to call West Mercia Police on 101, quoting incident number 372.

Rock house feels the heat

THE Martindales cave house on Kinver Edge has re-opened to visitors with cosy fires lit for the first time since its inhabitants left half a century ago.

Two crooked chimneys have been restored, enabling fires to be lit again at one of the Kinver Edge Rock Houses. The restoration has been a collaboration between the National Trust and the Kinver Edge Committee with heritage bricks donated by Ruskin Glasshouse College at Ambicote.

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Tributes paid to fundraising landlady

A FAMILY has paid tribute to a popular publican who battled breast cancer to raise thousands for good causes.
 Paula Newton, aged 57, was diagnosed with cancer 14 years ago. She ran The Union pub and The Bridge Inn, both in Kingswinford, with her husband Alan after a career change five years ago.

For more than a decade she

fought cancer and started a fundraising bid for charity.
 She raised £15,000 including nearly £5,000 for Breakthrough Breast Cancer and thousands for the Georgina ward at Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley.
 Mrs Newton had visited the ward where her father Bill Garbett had also been treated for treatment, while receiving chemotherapy.

But the disease returned 18 months ago and Mrs Newton died on March 1.
 She was the landlady of the Union pub, in Water Street, and the Bridge Inn, in Moss Grove.
 Her husband Alan Newton, 55, said: "She was very strong and brave and always had a smile. She always had time for people and was just a very kind, caring lady."

Norn in Brierley Hill and raised in Cradley Heath, she had attended Corngreaves Junior School and Lomey Town school.
 She had two children Nathan Brettelle, now aged 37 and Hayley Churchill, 28.
 She saw her grandson Freddie born in November.
 Her funeral is today (Thursday) at Gornal Crematorium at 10.20am.

Busy time ahead for Beacon's bus service

BLACK Country sight loss charity Beacon is launching a bus service to get volunteers out into the community.

The Beacon Centre for the Blind, in Sedgley, starts running the Beacon Bus tomorrow (Friday) 20 at Stone Street in Dudley town centre.

Arwyn Jones, Beacon's chief executive, said: "While most people are aware of the Beacon Centre in Sedgley, not everyone knows that we have a vibrant outreach programme, providing support to local people living with sight loss across the region."

"Our new Beacon Bus will allow our friendly team to get closer to the people who need our services, as well as spreading the word about Beacon and what we do."

Familiar

"We are certain that this brightly decorated vehicle will soon be a familiar and welcome sight around the neighbourhood and we can't wait to see the 'buzz' it generates."

The bus can also be booked by schools, colleges, care homes or local businesses. To check availability or to find out more, contact fundraising@beaconvision.org or call 01902 880111.

Rail crossing village misery

LEVEL-CROSSING barriers are staying down for too long after trains have passed, causing heavy traffic to build up, it is claimed.

Drivers using Station Drive, in Blakedown, are facing long waits, causing queues to tail back to the main A456 Birmingham Road. Some motorists are even reversing back on to the busy main road.

Residents said it had been a problem since the village's signal box was removed and the crossing was automated.

Network Rail spokesman Jon Crampton said the issue was now being looked into.

Flower stall bid

A TRADER has lodged a bid to sell flowers and potted plants outside Stourbridge Crematorium. Anthony Carney has applied to Dudley Council for a street trading licence. He wants to run a stall in South Road by the crematorium on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

A SHOPPING centre giant has been ordered to pay more than £10,000 for a breach of health and safety regulations after a worker from Dudley fractured his shoulder in a fall at a major London mall.

Brett Mason plummeted more than six feet through an unprotected gap in mesh flooring, just a few days before Christmas 2013.

The 39-year-old from Sedgley was one of a team of subcontractors working on a roof extension at the White City mall complex, in west London, when he fell on December 20, 2013.

Mr Mason suffered a dislocated and fractured right shoulder and was unable to work for six months.

Westfield Shoppingtowns Ltd was prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive. Westminster magistrates heard the company was principal contractor for the construction of a two-storey roof extension to an existing retail store, part of the 'Kidzania' project to provide a new leisure facility for children.

Mr Mason and a colleague had been finishing work in preparation for the Christmas break. The two had walked around to ensure all their materials were safely secured and not liable to blow off the roof in high winds.

Magistrates were told Mr Mason stepped back and fell through the unprotected gap in the mesh flooring, landing on the roof deck below.

The court was told the HSE investigation found the fall could have been easily avoided had edge protection been placed around the gap.

Westfield Shoppingtowns Ltd, of High Holborn, London, was fined £10,000 and ordered to pay £1,247 in costs after admitting a breach of the Work at Height Regulations 2005.

Questions asked included how shop fronts could be improved and what was being done to attract more traders to Dudley Market.

On shop frontages, Councillor Lowe said: "We have about £160,000 available through our community forums for this very thing. It's up to the local businesses to put in a bid for that via the community frontages and work with us to improve the look of some of these shops."

New bus fleet is rolling out



National Express boss Peter Coates with Centro's John McNicholas and Kath Hartley

A £5 million fleet of modern eco-friendly buses will be hitting a major route through the Black Country as part of a new investment programme.

The 24 new buses will be rolled out along the busy number nine route between Stourbridge and Birmingham city centre through Sandwell and Halesowen.

National Express West Midlands have launched a fleet of new ultra low emission buses on the number nine bus route.

The new buses will reduce harmful emis-

sions by 75 per cent and are part of a record £34 million investment in 171 new vehicles by National Express West Midlands during 2015.

With another new bus arriving every day for the next few months, by September all 171 of the vehicles will be carrying passengers across the West Midlands.

Managing director Peter Coates said: "The buses, which are all built in Britain, will have more comfortable seats, better lighting and crystal clear CCTV."

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Plea over attack caught on CCTV

A MAN was beaten in an apparently unprovoked attack at Dudley bus station.

Police discovered the attack during CCTV enquiries but so far no victim has come forward. It is thought the man got up and left the scene after the attack, in which he appeared to have been kicked unconscious.

No witnesses have yet come forward.

Police are appealing for any information on the attack which is thought to have happened at around 6.30pm on March 5.

Contact PC David Ward on 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Fossil ideas for new street names

ROADS on a new estate of 43 homes could be named in honour of a nature reserve. UK Construction Ltd is building near Dudley's Wrens Nest Nature Reserve, which is famous for its fossils.

The developer is proposing to councillors the names Fossil View, Calymene Mews and Silurian Mews. Calymene is the genus of trilobites — the famous 'Dudley bug' — while Silurian is the geological age of the rock in which the fossils are found.

SVR golden age of steam weekend

A CELEBRATION of the golden age of steam will kick off the Severn Valley Railway's 50th anniversary year this weekend.

The Spring Steam Gala will see four visiting locomotives star alongside the railway's own historical engines.

The event, which runs from tomorrow (Friday) to Sunday, will also mark the launch of a golden jubilee exhibition.

Nursery is rated as 'outstanding'

A NURSERY in Dudley has been rated as 'outstanding' following an inspection.

Ofsted praised Nether-ton Park Nursery School and Children's Centre, saying youngsters had a 'wonderful time'. The report said the staff were 'extremely passionate' about their work and provide families with an 'inclusive, outstanding' service.

New tennis HQ

A TENNIS club has been given the go-ahead to build a new clubhouse.

Dudley Council have given the green light for the project at Wall Heath Tennis Club, off Enville Road.

Police give too many cautions, says MP

A BLACK Country MP has criticised 'inappropriate' police cautions.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin said police cautions were preventing many crimes from coming to court as they were handed out too often as a 'slap on the wrist'.

A report prompted by magistrates in Dudley has shown that police cautions are used inappropriately in up to a third of cases.

The finding was revealed in a new report from MPs on the Home Affairs Select Committee on the use of 'out-of-court disposals' including cautions, fines and community resolutions.

Report

Mr Austin said: "I called for a report on this issue after local people and magistrates told me that too many offenders are being given a slap on the wrist. Now this report confirms that up to a third of offenders should face tougher action."

"Police in Dudley work flat out to keep the public safe but victims have to feel that justice is being done when cases don't go to court. This is really important because local people want more police on the streets, more offenders brought before court and more criminals put in jail."

Death crash driver charge

A MOTORIST has been charged with causing death by dangerous driving after a crash in Dudley.

Jamie Wharton, aged 29, suffered serious injuries when a Nissan Skyline he was driving careered through a garden wall in Netherton last year. His passenger, Timothy Pearson, 23, from Quarry Bank, died in the incident.

Wharton, of Birch Copice, Quarry Bank, has now been charged over the crash that happened last June and is due to appear at Dudley Magistrates' Court on March 31.

Charity rock gig

A LIVE music event is being held at a rock club to raise money for the Brian Tumour Charity. It will be £3 admission for Brainstock at Rock Zombie in King Street, Dudley, on Saturday from 2.30pm with bands including The Meharis, The Supers and Pencils for Pistols.

Cannabis found in former community centre

More than 550 cannabis plants were seized

A CANNABIS factory with plants worth nearly £230,000 has been discovered in a former community centre.

More than 550 plants were seized from the old Hurst Hill District Community Association on Hackett Close, Woodcross, following reports of suspicious activity.

Three men were arrested in connection with the discovery and later released on bail.

West Midlands Police spokeswoman Sarah Buxton said: "We were called to Hackett Close in Woodcross, at around 1.45am on March 11, following a report of

people seen acting suspiciously near two cars.

"Officers attended and located a property on the road, which contained a cannabis factory."

Inquiries

"One of the vehicles suspected of being involved in the original call was stopped on the Birmingham New Road, near the junction with Priory Road 20 minutes later."

"Three men, one aged 21 and two aged 19, were arrested from the vehicle on suspicion of cultivating cannabis. They have

been released on police bail while inquiries continue."

Residents in the area told of their disgust at the discovery.

Irene Wilkinson, aged 70, of Hackett Close, said: "It's a real shame to see the old centre the way it is now. My ex-partner's grandad used to run it years ago and it was for elderly people to meet up."

Heather Cleo, 17, was visiting her uncle close to Hackett Close. She added: "This is a fairly quiet area so I'm surprised to see that had been taking place. I rarely see the police around here."

Shock figures for domestic violence across the borough**MORE than 2,500 cases of domestic violence were reported in homes with children in Dudley in the space of a year, new figures reveal.**

The borough children's chief called the figure 'shocking' and said he believed there were many more people suffering in silence.

The information has come to light in a council report as the council launches its new domestic violence and abuse strategy on Monday.

Special day call to all veterans

FORMER servicemen and women are urged to come forward for the Armed Forces Day celebrations.

Anyone who has served in the Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines, the RAF or volunteer and regular reserves are entitled to a Veterans Badge at the event. A Veterans Medal can be claimed by those awarded a medal during military service. Those living in Dudley borough can have their honours presented to them at a special event at Himley Hall on June 28, the day after Armed Forces Day.

Councillor Margaret Aston, Mayor of Dudley, said: "The highlight of every Armed Forces Day is recognising the contribution of veterans when their badges are presented."

"We especially want to hear from servicemen and women who are entitled to or have already been sent their HM Armed Forces Badges to have them officially presented during the day's formal proceedings."

Contact Dudley Council on (01384) 818186.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet member for children's services, said the authority and support services were more committed than ever to tackling the issue. He said: "When you first see the figure it is shocking."

"It is not just mums and dads who are involved. We know there are children seeing terrible things going on between parents but there are lots of mechanisms now to get something done."

"Ensuring our children are in a safe home environment is an absolute priority and at the council we enjoy close working relationships with partner agencies to help identify issues and take action where appropriate."

He added: "Not that many years ago there wasn't anybody taking domestic violence as seriously as it should be, people would say 'it's just a domestic'. It shouldn't be like that. Now we are encouraging more people to report it."

"From what I can tell it is not an abnormal figure in Dudley compared to the rest of the country."

Particularly concerning will be the number of attacks in homes with children. In each of the 2,568 cases between April 2013 and March 2014, children lived at the address and may or may not have been present during violence.

British Empire Medal for RAFA stalwart

'It's humbling to think I have been nominated for something I enjoy doing,' says John Deane of his medal honour

A FORMER RAF serviceman will receive a British Empire Medal at a special ceremony today (Thursday).

John Deane has been honoured with the medal for 50 years of service to the Royal Air Force Association's Dudley branch. It was announced in the Queen's New Year's Honours.

A ceremony will take place in the Mayor of Dudley's parlour when the 78-year-old will have his award officially presented to him by West Midlands' Lord Lieutenant Paul Sabapathy CBE.

Mr Deane, from Kingswinford, said: "It was a real honour to be named in

the Queen's New Year's Honours amongst some incredible people. The work that I do for the RAF Association and in the community generally I get real pleasure from. It's humbling to think I have been nominated for something I enjoy doing."

Mr Deane is president and treasurer of the branch and organises the collections for the association's charity Wings Appeal, as well as the annual Remembrance parade. He was integral to the campaign that raised £64,000 in just over a year for a new cenotaph in Dudley town centre in 2001.

After two years of national service

in the RAF from 1955 to 1957, based in Iraq and Cyprus, he joined the RAFA in 1964. A former car salesman, he has dedicated 40 years to the committee of the Air Training Corps's 347 Squadron in Dudley.

He will be joined by distinguished guests including Air Vice Marshall Mike Smart and Air Commodore Dawn McCafferty RARF.

Councillor Margaret Aston, Mayor of Dudley, said: "I am delighted for John and his family, that at long last he has been officially recognised for all the hard work he puts in. He really is an inspiration to us all."

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A FORMER SNP leader Gordon Wilson says first minister Nicola Sturgeon should declare Scottish independence if the UK votes to leave the EU but Scots wants to stay in. So that's just one single referendum to a) get us out of Brussels' clutches and b) solve the Scottish Question. Bring it on.

LAY 100 pennies on the table in front of you to represent the annual spending of the UK. Now, given that politicians of all parties agree that "Defence of the realm is the first duty of any government," how many of those pennies would you spend on defence? The answer so far, from all the main parties, is barely 2p. One serious suggestion in Whitehall is that Britain could hit its target of spending two per cent on defence by including the money paid in pensions to old soldiers. This is not soldiering; it is creative accountancy.

IN general elections, the homing instinct is powerful. Dyed-in-the-wool Tories and Labour voters who dabbled with UKIP in by-elections tend to drift back into the fold. I dare say thousands are looking for an excuse not to vote for UKIP on May 7, hoping for just a hint that Nigel Farage's party is not yet respectable enough to be trusted. And then Farage shot himself in the foot by announcing he would scrap some of the laws against racial discrimination in the workplace. Alarm bells ringing? Thursday, March 12 may go down in history as the day when UKIP blew it.

REMEMBER how computers were going to create the 'paperless office'? This week I bought a shirt on the internet. As soon as the deal was done, I received a form to print, confirming my order. A few minutes later, I got an emailed receipt, followed two minutes later by an order reference number which was followed, after another two minutes, by an order confir-



IN just 24 hours, 300,000 adoring fans signed an email petition calling for Jeremy Clarkson to be reinstated in Top Gear. I wonder how these numbskulls would react if their son, brother or husband came home and said: "I got punched at work today"

THERE'S nothing like childlessness to give you a sugary, sentimental view of family life. The Pope castigates people who do not visit their frail and elderly parents in homes, declaring: "It is sickening to see the elderly discarded. It is a sin." Memo to his Holiness: In real life, some parents do not like their children and some children do not like their parents.

LET'S not get too sniffy and superior about the shock-horror news that thousands of babies in China are being sold on the internet. It is happening because China has no law against private citizens offering babies for adoption. There is a grey area between offering an infant for genuine adoption and selling it to the highest bidder. If UK citizens were also allowed to offer babies for adoption, how long before eBay would be stuffed full of adorable British kids, yours for £20,000?

DRIVING home a few nights ago I came up behind an old, rather small, sports car. It turned out to be an Aston Martin DB5, as driven by James Bond in the 1960s. Back then, the DB5 was a great big beast of a car. Today it is dwarfed by the traffic around it, a reminder of the relentless growth in the size of family saloons, and the lumpy, ever-growing humans they are designed to carry. Believe it or not, the DB5 is 7.4 inches narrower than a modern Ford Focus and only eight inches longer.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

New culture training role at museum

BLACK Country Living Museum will be taking on a training programme bringing on a new generation of experts in arts and culture.

Fellowships were created as a partnership with leading arts and education organisations in England with funding from the Arts Council.

Responsible

Officials at the popular attraction have announced they will be employing a fundraising fellow as part of the Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy programme. The museum is one of only three in the country to have been chosen to help.

They aim to create the next generation of leading development directors — the people who are responsible for developing culture, generating income and showcasing

the arts as a charitable cause. Individuals will arrive at he museum, in Tipton Road, Dudley, to learn on the job from experts in the field, supported by a training and learning programme and gain hands-on experience in fundraising.

In addition, the director will be helping with various challenging projects at the museum.

Carolyn Sankey, Director of De-

velopment at Black Country Living Museum, said: "We are delighted to become a host organisation for the Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy Programme, which will support a recent graduate or individual looking for a career change,with training and hands-on fundraising experience and enhance Black Country Living Museum's Development department."

Fetish club is aiming to overcome objections

A FETISH club has renewed its bid to open in Dudley and now planning chiefs are backing the scheme, months after the original was blocked by councillors.

Council planners said their decision had been made without making 'a moral judgement on the nature of the club'.

The Valhalla Club would cater for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community, disabled people and the vulnerable, the council was told.

It would be based in premises in Dock Lane, opposite Dudley Leisure Centre.

Clive Thomson, owner of the club, has lodged a fresh application for a change of use for the building.

His first bid to open the club was rejected by councillors in December. But since then a separate committee granted a licence for the club to sell alcohol and for live and recorded music.

Judgement

The previous application had referred to the venue as a 'private members club' but the current bid states it would be a 'social club and photographic studio'.

A report will go before members of the council's planning committee this week. It says: "The purpose of this report is to assess the suitability of the proposed use from a land use planning perspective and not to consider a moral judgement on the nature of the club.

By Charlie Benton

"This proposed development will involve the re-use of an otherwise redundant building which has been shown to be no longer viable for further industrial use. "On this basis, it is considered that the proposed change of use is acceptable in this location in compliance with the relevant policies."

But the application has so far received more than 30 objections with the main issues being the location close to the leisure centre, religious buildings, a primary school and homes.

The club is finished inside and is waiting to open.

Mr Thomson said: "We have gone through licensing and scrutiny committees all without issue. The planning department and officers are on board with us, it is now just the committee, and I believe the issues there are completely personal.

"They don't understand what this club is."

Health apprentices

MENTAL health hospitals in the Black Country will take on more apprentices later this year.

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust currently has nine business apprentices on its books.

Gary Graham, Chief Executive of Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, said: "Apprenticeships are hugely important within our organisation. I am delighted to have so many talented young people on board, and would love to see many more recruited in the near future."

To find out more call (01384) 324525.

Apprentices help rose bloom



Painting the rose red — Luke Hodgkiss and Dean Wilson at work in Brierley Hill

A SCULPTURE depicting a rose in the heart of a Black Country town has blossomed again after receiving a fresh coat of paint.

The Brier Rose was placed outside Brierley Hill Civic Hall in 1999 and over the years has become one of the town's best-known landmarks. But after so long outdoors, the vivid red and green of the sculpture had started to fade.

Now the piece, inspired by the town name, has been restored to its former glory

after bosses at Ian Williams Ltd agreed to fund the repainting of the rose. The work has been carried out as part of National Apprenticeship Week by apprentice painters Dean Wilson and Luke Hodgkiss.

Councillor Tim Crumpton said: "National Apprenticeship Week gives Dudley Council a great opportunity to remind people we are the highest recruiter of apprentices in the Black Country."

The sculpture of a wild rose was designed by borough artist Steve Field.

E-cigs not good cause for ban on adopters

COUNCILS in the West Midlands are being told to treat users of e-cigarettes differently to smokers when considering applications for adoption.

Guidelines issued by the British Association for Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) are being updated with the organisations saying 'we will be recommending that agencies now consider e-cigarettes as different to tobacco cigarettes'.

Despite experts saying 'vaping' poses little or no threat to children, authorities have been reluctant to place under-fives with users.

In Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall, people who wish to adopt a pre-school age child are ideally expected to have given up any kind of smoking for at least six months.

In a statement on its website BAAF said: "In light of the latest Public Health England report we are updating our recommendations. We will be recommending that agencies now consider e-cigarettes as different to tobacco cigarettes. Agencies should therefore recognise the low risk to children and not see the use of e-cigarettes as a reason to preclude foster carers or adopters purely on this basis."

Opening date at brewhouse

A BLACK Country brewery will be opening its new brewhouse and bar at the end of this month.

Sadler's Ales has moved production of its beers to a new site at Conyers Trading Estate in Station Drive, Lye.

The move from its original site next to the Windsor Castle Inn in Stourbridge Road, Lye, is to enable it to increase output.

The new Sadler's Brewhouse and Bar will open to the public on Friday, March 27.

Visitors will be able to see brewing in progress as enjoy some of the ales at the bar.

WI hear of king

KINVER Women's Institute will hold their next event on Saturday, which will feature a talk from a local historian about King Alfred the Great. The event at the Senior Citizen's Hall will also feature a fish and chip supper. Reserve a ticket on www.kinvervillagewi.co.uk

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M&S have put heart machines in stores

LIFE-**SAVING** defibrillators have been installed in Marks & Spencer stores throughout the Black Country.

The retail giant confirmed that 40 of the devices, which can be used to restart someone's heart in the event of a cardiac arrest, have been introduced to stores in the West Midlands.

Of those, 14 are in outlets in the Black Country and Birmingham and a further seven are spread out through Staffordshire.

Keith Davis, health and safety chief at M&S, said: "Our position at the heart of community high streets and large shopping destinations means that our stores are perfect venues to host defibrillators. By having them in our stores across the West Midlands, they will save a life in the future."

Marks & Spencer has partnered with West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) to roll out the devices. Matt Heyward from WMAS added: "The quicker someone is defibrillated, not only improves the chance of their survival but it can also help to improve the chances of a patient's full recovery. Every minute a patient is in cardiac arrest their chance of survival decreases by 10 per cent."

Woman in taxi collision

A WOMAN was taken to hospital after being hit by a taxi in Lye.

The incident happened at the junction of Dudley Road, High Street and Pedmore Road. Passers-by flagged down passing police officers who were on patrol.

The taxi stopped after the accident and paramedics immobilised the woman before transferring her to A&E at Russells Hall Hospital. She had apparently suffered minor injuries in the collision at 8pm on Saturday.

Anyone with information should call 101 or anonymously on 0800 555111.

Fred Zep on way

A LED Zeppelin tribute band will perform at Wolverley on May 2.

Fred Zeppelin will take to the stage at Wolverley Social Club in Shatterford Lane.

Tickets cost £6.60. For details visit www.wegotickets.com/event/308584

Edwina backs 'brilliant' work of hospice



Edwina Currie, organiser Sue Williams and hospice chief executive Stevan Jackson

EDWINA Currie was the star attraction at a charity dinner organised by Stourbridge-based Mary Stevens Hospice.

More than 140 people attended The Granary Hotel in Shenstone, near Kidderminster, eager to catch a glimpse of the former Tory minister, who in recent years has become known more for her TV appearances.

Mrs Currie courted controversy during her time as a politician. She caused a sensation when details of her infamous affair with former Prime Minister John Major were made public.

She was also memorably forced to resign from her role as junior health minister after warning about salmonella in British eggs.

The 68-year-old was attending a charity fundraiser for the Mary Stevens Hospice.

She said she was a huge supporter of hospices as they had been a part of her life from an early age.

"I have always been proud of hospices. They help people in the direst times in life, not just patients but families too," she said.

"My mother was a volunteer at a hospice in Woolton in Liverpool and I used to go along as a kid. Hospices are a brilliant ex-

ample of volunteering and charitable work in action."

After her latest reality TV appearance in I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out of Here, Mrs Currie revealed she was set to feature alongside The Only Way Is Essex star Joey Essex in her latest venture into TV work.

She has also featured on shows such as Strictly Come Dancing, Wife Swap and Come Dine With Me in recent years.

She said she had no regrets about going into the jungle. "It has certainly raised my profile," she said. "It was a great deal easier than learning to dance on Strictly."

Knifeman who threatened to kill is jailed for a year

TERRIFIED shoppers watched in horror as a heavily-armed man marched down a Brierley Hill street threatening to kill someone, a judge was told.

Timothy Little had a Stanley knife with the blade fully extended clutched in one hand and a claw hammer in the other.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that the furious 34-year-old stormed along Tiled House Lane in search of a shopkeeper whose behaviour had allegedly upset his partner.

Mr Geoffrey Dann, prosecuting, said: "He appeared agitated and aggressive."

The defendant was 'threatening to kill' as he passed shocked onlookers who included a mother with a small child.

The shopkeeper was not in the store when Little arrived and so he went outside to smash the windows of the man's parked BMW causing hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

The defendant claimed to have been told by his partner that she had been 'kneed in the leg' by the shopkeeper, a claim that was denied by the shopkeeper who said there had been a counter between them, the court was told.

It was the fourth time Little had been detained after being found in possession of a bladed article, said Mr Dann.

Little was battling to overcome a drug problem and had 'poor temper control,' said Miss Wendy Miller, defending.

The defendant from Bridgend Croft, Pensnett, admitted possession of two offensive weapons and causing criminal damage on August 22 and was sent to prison for a year.

Glimpse into the past at glass museum



Education manager Kate Figgitt looks at stained glass work by Dorothy Kettlewell in the exhibition at Broadfield House

INTRICATE glassworks depicting dragons, mermaids, cherubs and nymphs have gone on show as part of a new exhibition exploring how exotic lands and fantasy worlds inspired British glass artists over the last 100 years.

The Products of the Imagination exhibition has opened at the Broadfield House Glass Museum in Dudley.

It includes exhibits dating back to the late 1800s, when international travel was still rare.

Alex Woodward glass interpretation officer at the museum, said: "This was a time when you could not just look on Google Maps to see what the other side of the world looked like."

"You would only catch glimpses of far-flung places in travel guides and libraries, so you would take what little you knew of the place and build on it from your own imagination."

The exhibition features glassworks including decorative window panes, jugs, cups and bowls inspired by cul-

tures around the world, with Japanese, Chinese and the Middle Eastern influences.

Mr Woodward said: "The idea for the exhibition came when I noticed that a lot of our pieces incorporate dragons."

"These themes are not specific to a single company and the people who are coming to see them are not just art fans but often historians."

The exhibition runs at Broadfield House Glass Museum until April 26.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Choir's night of song for hospice

CRADLEY Heath Male Voice Choir is performing A Night of Song to help raise money for the Mary Stevens Hospice.

The concert will take place at St James's Church, Wollaston, next Saturday (March 28).

The charity fundraiser has been organised by the Kinver fundraising Group of Mary Stevens Hospice.

Also performing alongside the choir is guest soloist Lauren Perry. Tickets cost £8 and includes a glass of wine.

To book tickets call (01384) 877680 or (01384) 377778.

TV gardener is society's guest

TV gardener Bob Flowerdew will be the guest speaker at a Kinver and District Horticultural Society event next month.

He will attend the event at Edgecliff High School, in Enville Road, Kinver, on April 18. The talk at 7pm will be on his new book No Work Gardening.

Tickets cost £10 from Olga's Tea Shop, High Street, Kinver, and Ashwood Nurseries. Visit www.kinverhorti.org.uk or call Rosemary Pope on (01384) 872641.

Injured horse rider airlifted to hospital

A WOMAN suffered back and hip injuries and a suspected fractured pelvis after falling from a horse.

The incident happened in Gipsy Lane, Wolverley and the woman was airlifted by the Midlands Air Ambulance to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

West Midlands Ambulance Service was also called to the incident on Saturday afternoon.

Police in legal battle over jobs

WEST Midlands Police are fighting to avoid a massive pay out to officers ordered to retire after completing 30 years service. Almost 500 of those who lost their jobs as a result of the regulation are demanding compensation on the grounds it was 'ageist'. West Midlands Police are believed to have already run up almost £90,000 in legal fees.

Hospice quiz night

A QUIZ night in aid of Compton Hospice will take place next month.

The event will be held at the Round Oak pub in Ounsdale Road, Wombourne, on April 7 at 9pm. Entry is £1 per person.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

THREE teenagers have now been arrested and bailed by the Metropolitan Police, after being detained in Turkey on suspicion of plotting terrorist acts in Syria. And how exactly does this make our streets safer?

SHOULD he stay or should he go? The great Jeremy Clarkson debate seems to divide public opinion like few other matters at the moment.

A million people have so far signed an online petition calling for the former Chronicle motor-ing writer to be reinstated as the Top Gear frontman.

Meanwhile a YouGov poll of 780 UK adults said that 45 per cent believe the purveyor of tweed and faded denim should be sacked over what has been quaintly described as a 'fracas'.

What I can't understand is how any of these people feel they are in a position to pass judgement. Whether or not Clarkson keeps his job must surely be down to what happened at the hotel on the night in question, and nothing else taken into consideration.

How many of the 45 per cent calling for Clarkson to be sacked, or for that matter the million people who think he's Jack the Lad, have any idea of the events that took place?

If Clarkson really did punch a producer in the face, then he's obviously on very thin ice indeed. Nobody, wherever they work, should be allowed to as-sault a colleague in that way, and it would be hard to see how he could keep his position.

However, if he didn't punch anybody, then he should be al-lowed to get on with his job. It is a matter about discipline in the workplace, not an ideological battle between white van men and Guardian readers.

If 45 per cent of the popula-tion think Clarkson is a loud-mouthed, opinionated oaf, that is fair enough. He probably wouldn't argue with them. But it is not their place to decide what we can and can't watch on tel-evision.

Top Gear is one of the BBC's most commercially successful programmes, bringing in millions of pounds for the corporation, much of which will be spent on the sort of worthy programmes the Clarkson-bashers love.

Look, I don't like Strictly Come Dancing very much, but if peo-ple want to watch it, that is up to them. I won't be starting a petition for Len Goodman to be sacked.

One aspect of the Clarkson row which seem to have slipped by unnoticed. The BBC report-edly paid nearly £6,000 to stay at the Simonstone Hall Hotel. The venue no doubt also derived considerable kudos from having some of the biggest stars on television staying there. Would it really have been too much for someone to have worked a few hours overtime so the Top Gear team could have had a cooked meal when they returned from a long day filming?



Lucy Blanche Holden outside the Park Inn in 1925



Edwin Alfred Holden pictured with his son Teddy



Director Lucie Holden with Sam the beagle

Century of history is all bottled up

ADAM BURLING takes a look at Holden's brewery's humble beginnings as it marks its 100th anniversary

A BLACK Country brewery is toasting its 100th anniversary this year – thanks to Edwin Alfred Holden abandoning plans to follow in his father's foot-steps.

Born in 1875, Edwin was the youngest of seven sons. His father Daniel was a skilled shoemaker and after he left school, Edwin initially decided to join him and older brother Walter in the family business.

He also worked in the Trust in Providence pub in Washington Street, Dudley, combining his drinking with courting the landlord's daughter, Lucy Blanche Eliza-beth, who worked behind the bar.

The couple married at St Andrew's Church, Netherton, in October 1898, when Edwin was 23 years old and his new bride 20.

Licence

Edwin's father-in-law persuaded the newlyweds to take the tenancy of The Britannia Inn at Northfield Road, Neth-erton where they stayed for six years. When Lucy's father died in 1900, her mother kept the licence of The Britan-nia and in 1904 the couple moved to the Struggling Man Inn, Dudley.

The couple went on to run a number of pubs including the Atkinson's house, The Britannia Inn in Netherton.

They ended up at the Summer House in Woodsetton in 1910, where they stayed until 1920, but in August 1915 Edwin and Lucy bought the freehold of The Park Inn in Woodsetton, where the brewery has been based ever since.

The Park Inn had a cottage and a gar-den at the side and at the back a well



Former owner Edwin Alfred Holden, who died in 1920 aged 45

kept-bowling green and brewing equip-ment previously used by Atkinson's.

Harry 'Ossie' Round, the brewer at the time, brewed a very dark strong mild twice a week and a special strong ale at Christmas. By 1920 Edwin had fallen ill and he died in August, aged 45.

Lucy took over as licensee of The Park and was in charge until 1938, and son Teddy was to follow in his parents' footsteps. The bowling green was her pride and joy and it was kept in im-peccable condition by a few of the regulars who were paid in pints each week.

By 1930 Lucy's eyesight was failing due to diabetes and by 1934 she was blind, though she was still active in the day-to-day running of the pub.

Teddy married Clara Perry-Ham-mond in June 1938, but three weeks before the wedding his mother died at The Park Inn aged 60.

From 1940-44, the firm was kept busy brewing beer for the local RAF stations, and in 1944 a third pub was added to the estate when The New Inn in Coseley in 1944 was bought 'slightly bomb damaged' for £2,500.

Edwin Holden's Bottling Company was formed in 1943 at the back of The Park Inn by Clara Holden's brothers, Samuel and Wilfred Hammond.

In August 1966, Samuel died unex-pectedly aged 52, having been a director for 21 years.

His son, Paul, succeeded him, taking over the bottling in 1967 after spending two years at Phipps of Northampton Brewery as a student brewer.

In the early days, it bottled not only the Holden's range of beers but national brews for clubs, free houses and whole-salers.

The 1970s saw a move to draught cask -conditioned beer, with production run-ning at around 200 barrels per week, or 57,500 pints and the ensuing decades saw the company expand.

Estate

Before his death in 1981, Teddy had acquired several pubs including The New Inn, Rose & Crown, The Trumpet and had also extended the brewery.

His sons, Jonathan and Edwin, went on to increase the Holden's estate, which included the acclaimed Great Western and Codsall Station.

In 1991 Jonathan joined his father at the brewery after learning the trade at Morrell's Brewery in Oxford. Jonathan was instrumental in the creation and launch of Golden Glow which is now Holden's best-selling ale.

During the 1990s, The Ivy Bush in Smethwick, The Bell at Trysull, The Shrubbery Cottage, Oldswinford, and The Lamp Tavern, Bloxwich, were also added to the Holden's estate.

In December 2002, Edwin died, aged 57, after a short illness.

Over the next 10 years, there were purchases of three further pubs – The Waterfall, in Warley, Ye Olde Robin Hood Inn, Ironbridge, and The Fellows in Dudley.

● Memory Lane – Page 8

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

WOULD you take £1,000 from Tony Blair? The former Prime Minister is offering £106,000 to help Labour campaign in its 106 target seats.

And given that the Tories have a lot more money in their coffers, Ed Miliband's party could proba-bly do with every penny it can get.

Labour sends out begging emails every few days. This week it resorted to one signed by David Cameron saying how much he loved Labour. The joke was that it wasn't THE David Cameron but a Scottish sup-porter with the same name.

But back to Blair and his campaign funds. UKIP's James Carver calls Tony Blair an 'em-barrassment' and reminds everyone that he was the Prime Minister that took us into Iraq and Afghanistan. He says the donations should have been re-fused.

He also calls it the 'Blair rich project', which means unless he thought of that one himself there's a spin doctor working for him somewhere who is clearly earning his crust.

Labour probably doesn't need to pay too much heed to its op-ponents on this though. After all, that's what opponents do. They oppose stuff. Where it does need to do a bit of soul search-ing is among its own members.

The six constituency Labour parties around here to whom Mr Blair is handing his money – Cannock Chase, Dudley South, Stourbridge, Stafford, Halesow-en and Rowley Regis and Wol-verhampton South West – are all grateful.

After all, Mr Blair secured three election victories in a row. Even the 2005 one was a major-ity of 66 seats. David Cameron and Ed Miliband would probably consider 10 a great result in May.

It is also more than Mr Blair needed to do for Labour. He's making millions on the world stage and hardly needs to give two hoots about his old party. Indeed, to listen to some party members, you'd think he was the one who had made Labour unelectable in the 1980s.

Yet for all the things people did not like about him in the end, Labour are within touching dis-tance of returning to government after just a single term in oppo-sition.

Some candidates such as the one in Dundee who rejected the money, however, might feel hyp-ocritical for accepting it if they opposed Mr Blair on Iraq.

And while the £1,000 offered will undoubtedly come in useful for leaflets and other campaign material, the big dilemma is whether it is going to be more hindrance than help.

For if Tony Blair is a divisive figure within Labour, he is even more so to the electorate the party has to win over.

And that's a rather ironic coda for the political career of a man whose pinnacle was in uniting both left and right wing voters behind him.

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Time we paid more tax for our services

I COMPLETELY agree with the comments made by S Matano regarding the ongoing freezing of Dudley council tax.

There can't be many families earning in the borough who are not able to contribute more towards the services provided. It is no good complaining about services being cut if we aren't prepared to pay a bit extra for them to be maintained. Most poorer families should be protected by the benefits they receive but the rest of us should pay more.

The council continually hide behind the Government's cap on council tax rises but

that still gives them some scope for an increase. The same goes for income tax. This Government says it can't afford to spend as much as it would like on the NHS amongst other departments. But they are still suffering the legacy of the Thatcher years when the only way the Tories could be popular was to reduce taxes.

Now all parties are afraid to even suggest an increase which would surely put more money in the coffers.

A ASHAMAM Sedgley

Pensioners have paid their way

I WHOLEHEARTEDLY agree with C Williams regarding his remarks about the unfair comments made by the younger generation, who seem to think we have an unfair advantage during these difficult times.

I left school at 16 and finally retired from work 51 years later. I had only six weeks when I was out of work after retiring from the military. So in 51 years of working, paying my taxes and National Insurance, my debt to the State amounts to a little over £300 in jobseekers allowance.

I have earned my State Pension, my Army pension and my occupational pension. I have paid into the funds that provide them.

I have a bus pass, I've used it three or four times since it was issued. I drive a car, so I pay into the State in the form of VAT, fuel duty and car tax. So all you moaners who think you are hard done-by — do something for yourselves instead of expecting others to feathered you.

TREVOR MANSELL Norton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

dudley.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Penalty points for littering motorists

I FULLY agree with M Hankin's concerns about the amount of litter strewn alongside most roads within a mile or so radius of built-up areas.

It is a blight and an eyesore to the lovely countryside around here, and seems to come from throwing take-away materials out of cars and lorries and dumping bin bags.

Where I live it extends all along Manor Way and up along the motorway access road. What can be done about it? I suggest a three point penalty for drivers who throw or allow passengers to throw rubbish out of cars or lorries, plus 20 hours litter picking to ensure they understand the impact of what they are doing.

Could offenders on non-custodial sentences be put to good use by litter picking? Could the council not do more? Should there be an 'litter tax' on take-away outlets to enable councils to clear up?

There are some litter bins but they are emptied often enough and are they placed appropriately?

More education of youngsters in schools is needed and some of the old public service adverts we used to see on TV to raise awareness of the implications of littering. Perhaps James Morris could look into the matter and take effective action to improve the look of his blighted constituency?

A JOHN address supplied

Sometimes better to wait

IN reply to B Whitehouse, yes in the perfect world appointments should work, the problem is that when people are sick and require an appointment it is now usual to have to wait at least five days to get to see your GP.

When a person is suffering it is not always convenient to wait days to see your own GP, personally I would rather sit and wait to see a doctor for two hours than wait five days.

Yes, I could attend the A&E department and wait for four hours and clog up a department that is for accident and emergencies. This is the problem we have with our health service or at least it's part of the problem.

So if a medical problem can wait for days at a time before you get to see your own doctor, this would be ideal for the appointment system. However, for those that want to sit and wait because they are suffering, this would be equally appropriate. When people are in pain they do not want or should not have to wait days.

P LOWE Brierley Hill

Seeking nuns on bicycles

CONCERNING the letter in March 12 edition from P Cole regarding the nuns.

There used to be a convent until the mid-1980s next to Our Lady and St Thomas of Canterbury Roman Catholic church on Trindle Road in Dudley.

Could the nuns visiting the bike shop have been from there?

F WARD via SMS

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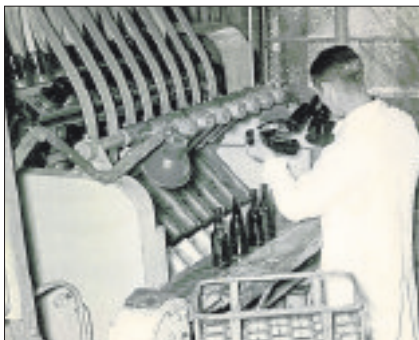
The Park Inn bowls team looking sharp in their suits and ties in the late 1920s



Director Edwin Holden Jr, Tom Poulton, and chairman Edwin Snr



Fausto Aloia filling barrels at Holdens Brewery in Woodsetton



A worker labelling bottles at the plant during the 1950s



Bottles of ale being prepared by Holdens' staff ready to distribute throughout the Midlands

Cheers – raise a glass to brewery centenary

THE brewing industry has changed dramatically over the last 100 years – but one of the Black Country's best known firms remains as popular as ever.

Holden's is celebrating its centenary year, and from humble beginnings the family-run business is now expanding as drinkers return to real ale.

Although the equipment at its site has become more modern, bosses are keeping traditions alive despite seeing production soar. The essence of the brewing process remains the same as it has for decades, though the scale has increased.

One of just 33 family-owned independent breweries in Britain with 20 pubs across the Black Country, Holden's expansion will see its base at the Park Inn, Sedgley Road, Woodsetton, extended and its ale production increased from 50,000 pints a week to 75,000.

A new tank room will be completed, increasing capacity by 50 per cent. New micro breweries such as the

MEMORY LANE

by Adam Burling

Backyard Brewhouse in Brownhills are building up a reputation but the Holden family say few can match their history and pedigree.

The extension has been built at the rear of the site, in George Street, and will see extra fermentation tanks installed.

Director Abi Kemp, whose great-grandmother Lucy was a driving force behind establishing the brewery in 1915, said: "It is really exciting year for us and it's lovely that we still have family members running the business. These are really exciting times for us."

"We are moving forward but we are a family business with a lot of history. We want to celebrate the last 100 years and give people the chance to learn about how the company has developed."

As part of the latest revamp, the old warehouses at The Park Inn were taken down and rebuilt, a new two-storey office block was constructed on the

site of the old off licence, and 18 new tanks installed. A test kitchen, bottle store and office suite are also part of the three-storey development.

Managing director Jonothan Holden said: "There has been a resurgence in the popularity of ales in recent time and this has been a massive benefit to us. This expansion is necessary for us to build on the business."

The brewery has a popular line of its own bottled beer now, but bosses say they want to keep focusing on draught in pubs to keep the industry going.

The Park Inn is steeped in history, with photographs of the Holden family, their workers and changes to the brewery displayed through the pub.

The brewery is hosting an open day on July 18 and 19 with guided tours and a mini beer festival.

Among other plans to mark the centenary is an ale around each of the company's 20 pubs. Those who complete the tour can then swap their completed card for Holden's centenary memorabilia. And a new brew is being created in honour of former West Bromwich Albion hero Tony Brown, called Bomber Brown.



Therese Holden, Abi Kemp and Jonothan Holden



The office and shop of Holden's Brewery, which is this year marking its centenary

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Barry beats path back to early days of rock

FROM attending a school run by Franciscan Fathers to going on tour with legendary rockers AC/DC – these are just some of the chapters in the colourful life of Barry Spencer Scranage.

And now the drummer has started work on a book chronicling his experiences from boyhood to playing with some of the biggest names in music.

The musician, who was born in Smethwick but now lives in Stourbridge, is looking for some help with the book and the release of archive material featuring performances by musicians such as Black Sabbath.

Barry said he had a turbulent childhood in and out of care and at the age of eight, he left the Black Country to attend a school run by Franciscan Fathers in Dorset.

Drummer

He started playing skiffle and early rock 'n' roll strongly influenced by performers such as Lonnie Donegan. It wasn't long before he was involved in his first band called The Shakedown.

After leaving school, Barry returned to the Black Country.

At a local pub, he heard A Way of Life which featured future Led Zeppelin drummer John Bonham. The pair quickly became friends and when Mr Bonham left the band, Barry took his place. During the early to mid-70s, Barry worked at Birmingham light and sound company LSD.

It was his experience in this field that led him to become a lighting technician during AC/DC's Highway to Hell tour where he became friends with frontman Bon Scott and the Young brothers Angus and Malcolm.

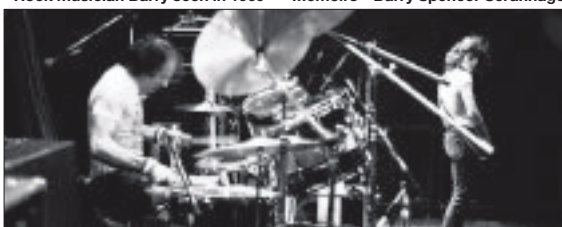
"Although I did not realise it at the



Rock musician Barry seen in 1969



Memoirs – Barry Spencer Scranage



Barry drums with Stevie Young in Starfighters, on tour in 1980

time this was the start of the next phase of my career as a musician," he said.

"Malcolm and Angus said 'why don't you form a band?' and suggested their nephew Stevie."

The band became Starfighters and released the single Heaven and Hell and I'm Falling. The band won a prestigious support slot on AC/DC's Back in Black tour. But Barry could not complete the tour after he was left devastated by the death of his old friend John Bonham. Barry also played on

early Blizzard of Oz sessions after Ozzy Osbourne left Black Sabbath. "It was a crazy experience. I still have recordings of some of the sessions which people have never heard. I would like to get some of this material out there so it can be heard by fans," he said.

"I have already started the book which starts very early in my life."

"I have a lot of memories and a lot of stories and I want to share them."

He said if anyone wanted to help they could contact him by e-mail at barrysencerscrannage@yahoo.co.uk

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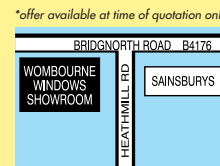
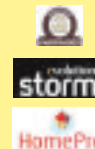
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Classic family drama is chosen by theatre company

A PLAY following a wealthy family and their experiences between the First and Second World Wars will be brought to the stage by a drama group.

Stourbridge Theatre Company will perform JB Priestley's *Time and the Conways* from today (Thursday) to Saturday at Stourbridge Town Hall, in Market Street, at 7.30pm.

Spokesman for the company Barbara French said rehearsals for the production had been taking place since January.

"A lot of new people have joined the group recently so for a lot of the performers it will be their first production for the company," she said.

"It is a very gripping play and we

are looking forward to staging the production," she said.

The piece is widely regarded as one of Priestley's best 'Time Plays', a series of works for theatre which deal with different concepts of time.

Tickets for the show cost £9, £7 concessions, and can be bought from the French Deli in Coventry Street, Stourbridge. Or call 0870 320 7000 or visit www.stourbridgetheatrecompany.org.uk website.

Stourbridge Theatre Company was founded in 1937 and stages three plays every year.

The group will next perform Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* from September 3 to 5.



Georgia Sanders, Dan Price and Naomi Plaice star in *Time and the Conways* at Stourbridge Town Hall

Youngsters get fit thanks to challenge

AROUND 1,000 pupils donned their trainers for a new fitness challenge set up by volunteers.

Kinver School's Fitness Challenge has been set up with the ambition of becoming one of the fittest villages in South Staffordshire.

The initiative has been established by Kinver Fitness Collective, a community group established six months ago by a group of volunteers and now has nearly 300 Facebook members. It aims to help people get fit for free, be it through walking, running or cycling.

The junior and secondary schools, Brindley Heath and Edgcliff High, are being set the challenge sponsored by estate agents Midcalf Nicholls.

Every pupil receives a healthy living booklet and achievement record and an award will be presented to the first pupil to achieve the milestone, with medals for every pupil taking part. Foley Infants School, also in Kinver, will complete a number of fitness challenges.

Old school pals rally at surprise birthday do

THEY are old school friends who come together for an annual reunion to reminisce about days in the classroom and playground.

And this year's commemoration brought special significance as the friends rallied around a classmate for his 60th birthday bash.

Philip Priest has been battling after being diagnosed with dementia and Parkinson's and his friends wanted to make it a special occasion in his honour.

Mr Priest, a former vending machine engineer, first started noticing his symptoms around seven years ago, and is now in full-time care.

The friends organised the party at Jubilee Gardens care home in Coseley.

Alan Carpenter, a school friend of Mr Priest who organised the event, said: "Me, Phillip and another one of the organisers, Andrew Cope, were all in the same year at High Park School, now Ridgewood, in Wollaston, from 1966 to 1971.

"Around 20 years ago a few of us decided to put on a school reunion, and we have been doing it once a year ever since.

"Since we have all recently turned 60, we wanted to put something special on for Philip.

Happy

"He had no idea we were planning it, not a clue, but he was so happy."

Around 17 former school pals were on hand to help Mr Priest celebrate in style.

"The care home were fantastic, they were all so accommodating and helpful," Mr Carpenter said.

"They were welcoming

By Charlie Benton

and put out a spread which was lovely.

"We had around 17 people turn up which was more than we were expecting.

"Once everybody who comes to the reunions found out we were doing it they all wanted to come along."

Mr Carpenter said Mr Priest found it difficult to deal with his illness once his symptoms started to show.

"He was always very fit," Mr Carpenter said. "He joined the Navy not long after we left school and served on the Ark Royal.

"He took part in a lot of exercises and was always at peak fitness.

"He had to pack his job in around ten years ago."

Despite this, Mr Carpenter said Mr Priest, or 'Dibble', as he is known to his friends, came into his own at the party.

"He really loved it," Mr Carpenter said. "And the girls that were there really loved him. He was always a bit of a ladies man, so he really enjoyed it."

"After everybody had gone he told me it had been a complete surprise, he really enjoyed himself."

Brinton's carpets on cruise ship Britannia

WHEN Britain's biggest ever cruise ship was officially named by Her Majesty The Queen last week, there will have been a thrill of pride for workers at a Kidderminster factory.

More than 226,000 sq ft of Axminster carpet throughout the ship was made and supplied by the Brintons business, which has been manufacturing in the town since 1783.

The carpeting was specifically designed and made for use on all the public areas of the £473 million P&O Britannia.

The 3,600 passenger vessel is the largest cruise ship designed for the British holiday market.

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German ideas at glass museum

A MULTI-MILLION pound museum showing the history of the glass industry has been boosted after delegates returned from a fact-finding trip to Germany.

Work is gathering pace on creating the new museum in the Glass Quarter at Wordsley's former Stuart Crystal Factory.

Members of the British Glass Foundation went on a trip to the Frauenau Glasmuseum in Bavaria to gather ideas. The group included curators from Broadfield House Glass Museum, architects for the new museum, representatives from the British Glass Foundation and the developer restoring the Stuart buildings, led by chairman of the Glass Association, Brian Clarke.

Plans for the £5m museum have been brought forward by the foundation with developers, Complex Developments, which are spearheading the transformation of the former glassworks off Camp Hill. British Glass Foundation chairman Graham Knowles said the trip had proved enlightening.

WPC 56 is back on the TV beat



Claudia Jessie is WPC Annie Taylor in the TV series

AFTER impressive ratings and for its first two series, WPC 56 has returned to our screens for a third series.

The daytime drama, much of which which was filmed at the Black Country Living Museum, follows the day-to-day encounters of a woman police constable in the testosterone-fuelled world of policing in the 1950s at the fictional Brimford Police Station, a satellite town of Birmingham.

The drama's former leading lady, WPC Gina Dawson, played by Jennie Jacques – who recently starred in the blockbuster Vikings – has moved on to the Metropolitan Police Force and rookie firebrand WPC Annie Taylor has stepped in to walk her beat.

Newcomer

Taylor, played by talented newcomer Claudia Jessie, is a determined and no-nonsense young copper determined to follow in the footsteps of her bobby father.

Jessie plays Taylor as a tough cookie, using her Moseley-born Brummie accent to full effect. WPC 56 airs at 2.15pm on BBC One.

Prize draw for direct debit with council

DUDLEY Council is running a free monthly prize draw to win £100 in supermarket vouchers for those who sign up to pay their rent, garage rent or insurance through direct debit between now and June 2015.

Tenants can sign up to direct debit by calling the council's dedicated housing team on 01384 815024. Customers can pay on the 6th, 14th, 21st or 28th of the month.

Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, said: "Using direct debit as a payment method is simple, quick, safe and is Dudley Council's preferred method.

"We currently have thousands of tenants who take advantage of this service, saving both time and hassle – safe in the knowledge that their bank or building society automatically makes the payment when it is due."

She added: "Everyone who joins between now and June 2015 will be entered into our free monthly prize draw."

Number of appeals made over first school choices rise

MORE parents are appealing after their children missed out on getting their first choice school places in Dudley borough.

The number of appeals lodged by parents rose from 287 in 2013 to 323 in 2014, according to a Freedom of Information request by UKIP.

Latest figures show 2,809 children, around 82 per cent, were able to get in to a place at their first choice secondary school in the borough.

That meant one in five pupils failed to secure places at their preferred secondary schools in September. A total of 298 got their second choice, while 70 students got their third choice.

West Midlands MEP and Sedgley councillor Bill Etheridge said schools are coming under increasing pressures.

"The increase in the number of appeals from parents is very worrying as it makes you question how our schools can cope with ever increasing pressures on places and resources," he said.

Quality

"Children have a right to a quality education in their locality and I believe strongly in parental choice but sadly more and more parents are failing to get their children accepted by their first choice schools."

Councillor Etheridge said public services were facing pressure at a time when the Government had failed to meet its immigration targets.

"How can our schools, hospitals, and indeed local authorities plan service delivery when the Government promised to keep numbers down to 'tens of thousands'?" he asked.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, in charge of children's services, refuted claims the appeals rise was linked to immigration.

"We have nothing that points to immigration being a factor on this in Dudley, on the contrary, we have sufficient secondary school places to meet the needs of all our children," he said.

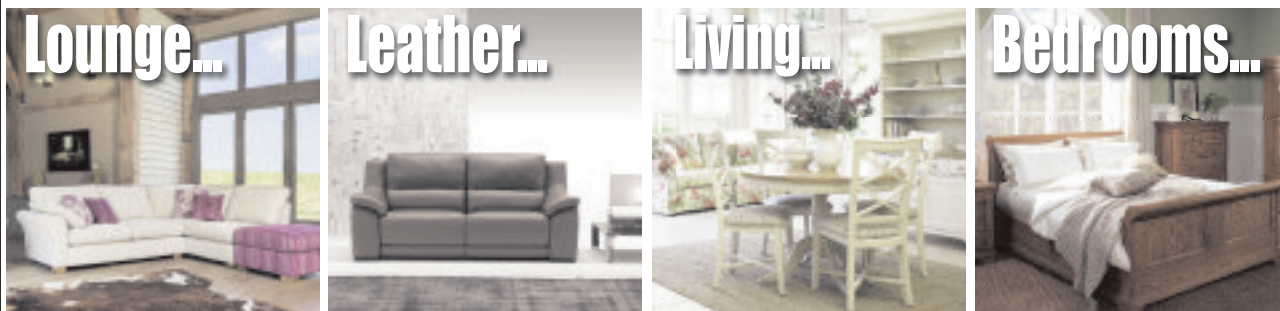
"Eight two per cent of Dudley children are being allocated their first preferred school while 94 per cent have been allocated a place at one of their preferred schools and 100 per cent have been offered a place at a borough school."

Station petition is handed over

A PETITION calling for plans to close the front desk at Dudley police station to be scrapped has been delivered to Parliament by Dudley North MP Ian Austin.

West Midlands Police announced in November that Dudley would be one of 27 police stations across the region to have front offices closed to the public. The front desks at Stourbridge, Halesowen, Tipton and Wednesbury have already been closed to the public in a bid to make savings.

Mr Austin said: "Our station is just as busy as those elsewhere but closing it would leave Dudley as the largest town in the country without a police station open to the public. I think this is completely unacceptable, which is why I launched this petition. The fact that 2,200 residents have backed the campaign – including former superintendent Mr Roger Bagley – shows that local people agree."



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Pledge move to protect more children

COUNCIL bosses are joining forces to call on people to make a personal pledge to help tackle Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton councils, along with West Midlands Police were supporting the first national CSE awareness day, held yesterday (Wednesday).

Abuse

Organised by charity National Working Group Network, the day was aiming to encourage everyone to think about and speak out against such abuse.

The seven regional councils, the police and partner organisations are working together to raise the profile of CSE and launched

the See Me, Hear Me campaign last June.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet member for children's services at Dudley, said: "Child sexual exploitation is a horrendous abuse crime, which has been hidden for far too long. Through our See Me, Hear Me campaign we have been increasing people's understanding of CSE and how to spot the warning signs, so the national awareness day is a great way to spread the message further."

For more information see the www.nwgnetwork.org website. The network is supported by BBC Children in Need, Comic Relief and The Bromley Trust.

Black Country leaders veto Greater Brum 'Metro Mayor'

By Daniel Wainwright

BLACK Country leaders are demanding that the idea of a 'Metro Mayor' for the West Midlands be ruled out in talks on a combined authority.

They say the joint body, which will oversee regeneration, transport and skills, should be called 'West Midlands Combined Authority' — ruling out completely any suggestion of a Greater Birmingham.

Councillor Darren Cooper, leader of Sandwell Council, has written on behalf of the Black Country to his equivalents in Birmingham, Coventry and Solihull to set out the 'red lines' when working together.

Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall and Birmingham councils have already agreed to create a joint

authority but the door was left open to Coventry and Solihull.

There are concerns that if the name Greater Birmingham is used it will give the impression that it is the second city that is in charge, rather than an equal partnership with the neighbouring cities and boroughs.

Referendum

Chancellor George Osborne continues to float the idea of a West Midlands regional mayor, despite Birmingham having already voted in a referendum to not have one.

The combined authority would allow the councils to work together on projects that benefit the whole of the West Midlands and avoid having to compete with each other for ever-shrinking

pots of Government funding. In the letter Councillor Cooper says: "With regard to the notion of a Metro Mayor, the Black Country Councils would like to use the following wording in our communications: 'A Metro or regional Mayor is not part of the solution for the governance structure of the West Midlands and will not be a part of any agreements to create a combined authority.'"

"Secondly, with regard to the name of the combined authority we have to think about what will be acceptable to the individual councils and the residents of the localities."

"Black Country councils believe that the name should be 'West Midlands Combined Authority'."

"We would urge colleagues to support this so that we can give clear direction to officers in regard to the name and mayor issues."

Cancer gave Sadie the courage to set sail



Sadie Windmill on her yacht — she says the experience of having cancer gave her the courage to change her life

SHE is the school teacher who has taken to the seas to sail her boat like a heroine from an adventure novel. But Sadie Windmill has succeeded in an even greater challenge — battling a serious form of cancer.

The 44-year-old former Kingswinford assistant headteacher was stunned after being diagnosed with cancer more than two years ago.

Sadie remembers her early concerns and visits to the doctor with a swollen neck which was diagnosed as mumps. However, the problem persisted and after a consultant backed up the doctor's opinion, she decided to go private and see a head and neck surgeon.

The surgeon, John Watkinson, based at the Priory Hospital, Edgbaston, ordered tests and the next day confirmed that Sadie had chronic lymphocytic leukaemia.

"We were stunned. Having never been really ill in my life it was such a shocker and took a while to accept it all," said Sadie, who was assistant head at the Crestwood School, Kingswinford.

She went to see consultant haemato-oncologist Dr Premini Mahendra — or Prem as the couple came to know her.

Chemotherapy

Life was turned upside down for Sadie and her husband Jules as she was forced to undergo an intensive course of chemotherapy.

"Life became a whirlwind of operations, tubes, needles and hospital appointments," she said. "I had six chemotherapy treatments in six months. I won't lie, it was tough, but we were determined to remain positive throughout."

"At the end of the first cycle, the lumps were no longer visible to the eye. I also was very proactive, exercising, getting out in the fresh air, meditating and changing my diet totally," she added.

The three month tests showed that all the tumours were gone and three months later Dr Mahendra announced that Sadie was in full remission.

After they received the happy news, the couple thought they must do something life changing to celebrate the landmark moment. They wanted to see the world so boarded their yacht, with their two dogs Tinker and Scrapy, and sailed around France, Spain, Gibraltar, Morocco and Portugal.

"Every day is different. We drop anchor, catch fish, go kayaking, swim off the back of the boat, have a barbecue and walk the dogs," she said.

But the couple still keep in regular touch with Prem, returning for tests every six months.

Sadie said: "If I had never had cancer, I would never have been brave enough to do what we are doing now. We love the way of life we now lead with lots of sun, relaxation and a Mediterranean diet."

"With wi-fi and Skype we probably see more of family than ever before."

"I would never wish to have had cancer but without it I would never be leading such a fulfilled, adventurous life."

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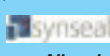
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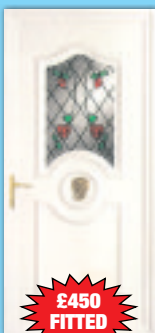
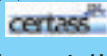
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A life dancing together for diamond couple



Keep dancing — John and Joan Millward celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary at home in Kingswinford

A DIAMOND wedding couple who spent 26 years dancing together say the secret to a long and happy marriage is getting on well.

Joan and John Millward, from Kingswinford, met on holiday in 1952. Later in life, they moved to Spain and taught holidaymakers to dance.

Mr Millward, aged 82, who was an engineer before he took up dancing, said: "My mother and Joan's mother both sat next to each other at school in Aberystwyth. Later on we went on

a family holiday and me and Joan met on the promenade."

The pair courted for several years before Mr Millward went into the RAF. Three years later the couple married at St Mary's Church in Kingswinford, on March 5 1955.

They had one son, Gary, born in 1961, who died aged 31.

The pair moved to Spain and taught dancing, as well as providing entertainment at popular holiday destinations, only returning around five years ago. However, the pair still enjoy travelling, having spent their diamond anniversary in Turkey.



John and Joan on their wedding day

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Respite projects offered funds

DUDLEY Council is offering providers of activities for disabled children the chance to bid for funds.

Bids of up to £499 are being sought from providers of activities for youngsters, which enable parents to have a break from caring whilst providing their children with new and exciting opportunities. Potential short break service providers can include small charities, community and faith groups, scouts and brownie packs who offer short break activities for disabled children.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, cabinet member for children's service, said: "We are urging providers to come forward and take advantage of the funding on offer at this time and make an application."

Contact the project manager on (01384) 815813 for an application form.

New law could be used to rid Black Country of stray horses

A CRACKDOWN on stray horses is being proposed using new anti-social behaviour laws.

It comes as councillors look to enforce new powers that could see people fined for having animals grazing on public land.

Councillor Joanne Hadley, who represents Great Bridge, has been working on the issue and says that the council is looking implement new rules introduced by the government.

By Andrew Turton

Under new anti-social behaviour legislation brought in by ministers late last year, officials can now make public spaces protection orders.

These orders enable authorities to ban anti-social behaviour that is causing a nuisance to people living in or nearby problem hotspots.

Bans could be introduced that would mean horse owners being given fixed penalty notices of up to £2,500 for having animals on land.

Sandwell Council has been considering implementing the new laws. Councillor Hadley says it would bring more powers to tackle the problem. "This has been music to my ears which will help police and the council on a range of anti-social behaviour issues including horses," she said.

Stray horses have long been a problem across Sandwell and Dudley.

Almost £100,000 was spent tackling the number of horses illegally grazing on Dudley parks and nature reserves last year.

Dudley Council has removed more than 460 horses over the past three years.

Bad smell from dead flowers

COUNCIL bosses have come under fire over a remembrance garden.

Sandwell Council said it would remove dead flowers left in vases at Rowley Regis Crematorium after George and Lilian Johnson visited from Kidderminster, only to leave 'incensed' at the foul smell of stagnant water and dead flowers. The couple had visited to lay flowers in memory of Mrs Johnson's father. Mrs Johnson, 70, said: "The smell from the vases is atrocious."

Council leader Darren Cooper said: "We routinely remove dead flowers at both Rowley Regis and Sandwell Valley Crematoria but are mindful there are many instances where families often prefer to replace floral tributes themselves."

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The eye-catching Scarlet Tiger moth that has been seen in Stourbridge, close to the crematorium

Wildlife corridor created after eye-catching moth spotted

TIGERS of a different kind may soon be seen on the streets of a Black Country town after conservation work by volunteers.

They have been busy improving the habitat for the Scarlet Tiger moth and other wildlife close to Stourbridge Crematorium.

An overgrown area alongside the brideway was cleared which should encourage wild flowers that the Scarlet Tiger feeds on to flourish.

The moth was first seen in the area by local butterfly conservation member Joy Stevens, who has been recording the wildlife near her home for years.

She said: "Roman Road and Sandy Lane provides a pleasant urban corridor with many different trees and

flowers. Three years ago, I was excited to find an unusual caterpillar which I later discovered to be that of a Scarlet Tiger.

"It was feeding on Evergreen Alkanet which flourishes along the verges.

Helpful

"I contacted the council and they have been incredibly helpful, immediately modifying their grass cutting programme and supporting suggestions to designate the lane as a green corridor."

West Midlands Butterfly Conservation group will be organising conservation work parties in coming weeks.

There is also a walk on April 11 at 11am from Roman Road, near Stourbridge Crematorium.

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Paloma is back for Arena concert

BRIT award-winning singer Paloma Faith will headline Birmingham's Barclaycard Arena tonight (Thursday) during the biggest tour of her career.

She had hoped to record the next Bond theme but now knows that she won't. Last month she Tweeted: "Dear @007 I've been waiting patiently to be able to sing the next theme. I was BORN to do it. Please don't give it to someone else again!"

However, she subsequently found out that she'd missed out on the chance to sing on Spectre.

"I think now because of the whole cool factor thing I'm never going to get it, and if you ask for something in this business, you don't get it," she said.

Step into Boogie Shoes for Fever

TONY Manero will be strutting his stuff again when the hero of Saturday Night Fever will be bringing his jive talkin' and smooth disco moves to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre.

Based on the hit movie, the musical filled with disco hits returns to the dancefloors of 1970s Brooklyn.

As Tony, Danny Bayne is getting used to filling John Travolta's shoes after starring as Danny Zuko in Grease in the West End, after winning TV show Grease Is The Word.

The fever continues at the Alex until Saturday night.

Theatres mark centenary of American playwright's birth

Frozen a first for ice magic

MAGIC! Coming soon to Birmingham's Genting Arena is a show that is guaranteed to be a hit with all Disney fans.

Disney On Ice presents Magical Ice Festival, the first to feature the much-loved sisters Anna and Elsa from the number one animated film of all time, Disney's Frozen.

The ice show is due to run in Birmingham from April 1-5 as part of a nationwide tour. Due to its popularity 20 extra performance have been added.

It will see Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse bring the most magical moments from across the Disney kingdom to UK audiences.

And in a new twist on fairytale fun, comical segments from everyone's favorite Disney characters set the scene for the show-stopping on-ice stories of princesses Ariel, Rapunzel and Belle.



Sparkling - Elsa set to thrill the Disney fans

THEATRE fans looking for plays to challenge the intellect are being well served this spring.

Following The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-time at Wolverhampton Grand (it's back at Birmingham Hippodrome in the summer), Tom Stoppard's time-travelling play about historical fact and fiction, Arcadia, is at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Saturday.

Set at a Derbyshire country house in the modern day and 200 years earlier, it finds a scholar researching an episode in Lord Byron's life involving a precocious young lady and Byron's friend Septimus Hodge.

The 19th century scenes feature 20-year-old screen actress Dakota Blue Richards, from Skins and The Golden Compass, making her stage debut as Thomasina Coverly.

Meanwhile, there seems to be an Arthur Miller revival with the great American playwright's A View From The Bridge coming to Wolverhampton, All My Sons at Birmingham and Death Of A Salesman revived by the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. All explore the idea of 'the American Dream' and its reality.

At the Grand from Tuesday to Saturday, the Touring Consortium Theatre mark the centenary of Miller's birth with A View From The Bridge.

Brooklyn

Set in the 1950s in the tough New York district of Brooklyn, it tells of an Italian-American family rocked by the arrival of two young male cousins from Sicily.

At Birmingham Rep from Tuesday to Saturday, All My Sons looks at the immediate aftermath of the Second World War for a couple whose son is declared missing in action. Miller's first success is revived by Talawa, the UK's primary black-led touring theatre company.

Meanwhile, Anthony Sher stars as Willy Loman, who sees his hopes evaporate after a life of hard work in Death Of A Salesman, in repertoire at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre from March 26 to May 2.



Dakota Blue Richards in Arcadia

The production is directed by RSC artistic director Gregory Doran and also features Harriet Walter and Alex Hassell.

Nikolai Foster's production of Jonathan Harvey's 20-year-old play Beautiful Thing is coming to Birmingham Hippodrome's The Patrick Centre, prior to a West End run.

An urban love story between two young men on an inner city housing estate, and revolving around their relationship with a loud-mouthed neighbour, it is staged from March 30 to April 11.

The cast includes former EastEnders actors Charlie Brooks (she played dangerous Janine Butcher) and Thomas Law, and Sam Jackson from Skins and Hollyoaks.

McCartney tour to include Brum

SIR Paul McCartney has announced his first UK shows in three years - including a gig in Birmingham.

The former Beatle will play the Barclaycard Arena on May 27 and also London's O2 and Liverpool the same month as part of a European tour.

The set list will include tracks from throughout his career including songs from his most recent album, 2013's New.

The gigs will be his first UK concerts since he played the Royal Albert Hall in 2012.

Sir Paul said: "It's always great when you get to play in your home country. It's been a little while since I've performed here so we're planning a few surprises."

Slam Dunk punk flim acts named

THE final set of bands have been announced for this year's Slam Dunk festival, being held at three locations in May.

The festival, which takes place over the bank holiday weekend at venues in Wolverhampton, Leeds and Hatfield is to return to the city's Civic Halls on May 25 with various stages for a line-up of more than 50 punk rock bands.

Architects, Finch, Set it Off and We Are The Ocean have been announced as additions to this year's line up, which is headlined by You Me At Six.

For the full line up visit slamdunkmusic.com and tickets are priced at £42.90.

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CHOICE



David Starkey

Richard III: The Princes in the Tower (Channel 4, 9.00pm)

In the week of the reburial of Richard III at Leicester Cathedral, this drama-documentary explores the events of 1483, when he put 12-year-old Edward V and younger brother Richard of Shrewsbury into the Tower of London. Weeks later, he pronounced himself king and the boys were never seen again. For more than 500 years it has been thought by some that the monarch killed his own nephews to take the throne, while others believe no crime took place – and that the youngsters lived anonymously into old age. Hearing from experts including David Starkey and Philippa Gregory, the programme tests the competing theories.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Football Focus. **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Italy v Wales (Kick-off 12.30pm). The final day of the championship gets under way with this clash at the Stadio Olimpico, as Wales look for a third away win of the tournament. **2.25** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v Ireland (Kick-off 2.30pm). Coverage of the second of today's three fixtures comes from Murrayfield, as the nations play their final match of the campaign. **4.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. England v France (Kick-off 5.00pm). This year's championship reaches a climax at Twickenham, where the final standings will be decided.

7.00 BBC News.**7.10 Regional Programme.**

7.15 The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes present the first live round of the singing contest, in which the 12 remaining acts perform for a place in the semi-final. After all three acts in each team have performed, Tom Jones, Will.i.am, Rita Ora and Ricky Wilson will choose one to progress straight through to the next stage of the competition – leaving the remaining two on each team to go head to head in a public vote.

9.15 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin pushes the buttons to reveal the results of the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

9.25 The Voice UK Results. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes announce the result of the public vote to decide which four acts will be going home – leaving Tom Jones, Will.i.am, Rita Ora and Ricky Wilson with just two each for next week's semi-final.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Newcastle United v Arsenal and Manchester City v West Bromwich Albion; National Lottery Update.

11.45 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures.

1.05 Film: Virus. (1999) A salvage tug crew boards an abandoned Russian vessel and encounters a deadly alien life form composed of pure energy. Sci-fi thriller, with Jamie Lee Curtis. **2.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.40** BBC News.

BBC2

7.10 Film: Safari. (1956) **8.40** Six Nations Rewind. (R) **9.40** The Fred Dibnah Story. (R) **10.10** Fred Dibnah's Magnificent Monuments. (R) **10.40** The Nature of Britain. (R) **11.30** A Taste of Britain. **12.00** A Taste of Britain. **12.30** Alec Guinness: Talking Pictures. (R) **1.10** Film: The Man in the White Suit. (1951) Satirical Ealing comedy, with Alec Guinness. **2.35** Film: Flight of the Navigator. (1986) Sci-fi adventure, with Joey Cramer. **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.15** Flog It!

6.15 Gardeners' World. Monty Don tries to revive the fortunes of the once-popular chrysanthemum, while Joe Swift has suggestions for viewers thinking of giving their garden a bit of a spring revamp. (R)

6.45 Key on a Plate. Chef Raymond Blanc and broadcaster Kate Humble spend a year at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Richmond upon Thames, south-west London, to try to re-establish the long-lost fruit and vegetable plots that once provided produce for the royal table. In the first episode, spring has arrived and Raymond harvests rhubarb and plants asparagus crowns, while Kate discovers how war with France turned Britain into a nation of potato eaters. (R)

7.45 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring initiates a recruitment campaign, but makes the mistake of leaving Wilson in charge of the poster. (R)

8.15 Murder on the Victorian Railway. Drama-documentary examining the death of banker Thomas Briggs in July 1864, which was the first murder to be committed on a British train. (R)

9.15 Film: Now Is Good. (2012) Premiere. A 17-year-old girl is diagnosed with terminal leukaemia, and decides to make the most of the few months she has left, working her way through a list of life-changing experiences that most people have during their teenage years. Meanwhile, her parents and brother each try to cope with the impending loss in their own way. Drama, starring Dakota Fanning, Olivia Williams and Paddy Considine.

10.50 Film: Girl with a Pearl Earring. (2003) Period drama, with Scarlett Johansson and Tom Wilkinson.

12.25 Film: Michael Collins. (1996) **2.25** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. **6.10** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.30** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. **8.30** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. **8.50** Scrambled!: Hulk and the Agents of Smash. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.40** Film: Murder, She Wrote: The Celtic Riddle. (2003) Mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. **3.30** Secrets from the Sky. (R) **4.00** Off Their Rockers. (R) **4.30** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **5.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painful-looking accidents. (R)

7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. Stephen Mulhern finds himself at the mercy of the Georgie duo as they once again go undercover, as Ashley Roberts overruns this week's round of Ant v Dec, and the guest announcer is this year's Oscars host Neil Patrick Harris, getting in some practice before he takes the reins of the American version of Saturday Night Takeaway. Plus, the Supercomputer hits the road again and a member of the studio audience plays to win the contents of a commercial break.

8.25 You're Back in the Room. Five contestants team up to complete four challenges, including serving pints to Coronation Street stars past and present. Phillip Schofield hosts the hypnotism show finale.

9.25 The Jonathan Ross Show. Russell Crowe talks about The Water Diviner, Elizabeth Hurley discusses The Royals and Lily James reveals what it was like to play Cinderella.

10.30 ITV News. Weather.

10.45 Film: Burn After Reading. (2008) Two gym employees get hold of the manuscript for a CIA agent's tell-all book and try to sell the secrets it contains. The Coen brothers' comedy, with Brad Pitt.

12.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV NightScreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Trans World Sport. **7.05** Cycling: Revolution Series. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.35** Frasier. (R) **11.05** Frasier. (R) **11.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** Rude(ish) Tube. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Newbury and Kelso. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.10 The Simpsons. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Selling Off Britain. Will Hutton argues that business leaders and politicians are selling off some of Britain's best companies for a quick and easy profit, creating a dumbed-down, low-wage Britain.

8.00 The World's Weirdest Weather. Icebergs explode into thousands of pieces in Antarctica, locals film a rare snowstorm in the Saudi Arabian desert, and more than 10,000 seabirds are killed off the north-west coast of America when storms churn up algae in the waters, creating deadly sea foam. In Canada, tourists witness a full-circle rainbow, and a firefighter in Texas is caught up in a wave of hail so large that it shuts down the highway.

9.00 Richard III: The Princes in the Tower. In the week of the reburial of Richard III at Leicester Cathedral, this drama-documentary explores the events of 1483, when he put 12-year-old Edward V and younger brother Richard of Shrewsbury into the Tower of London. Weeks later, he pronounced himself king and the boys were never seen again. For more than 500 years it has been thought by some that the monarch killed his own nephews to take the throne, while others believe no crime took place – and that the youngsters lived anonymously into old age.

10.00 Film: Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter. (2012) Premiere. Fantasy thriller, starring Benjamin Walker and Dominic Cooper.

12.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **1.05** Film: Stakeout. (1987) **3.05** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.15** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **5.30** The Common Denominator. (R) **5.55** NFL: Rush Zone.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.10** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.45** Film: Alpha and Omega. (2010) **12.15** Film: Columbo: The Conspirators. (1978) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **2.25** Holiday Love Rats Exposed. (R) **3.25** The Woman with 40 Cats – and Other Pet Hoarders. (R) **4.25** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **5.25** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R)

6.20 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Mike Allonby and Terry Jones repossess debtors' cars in Cheshire and Liverpool. (R)

7.10 Police Interceptors. A foul-mouthed pensioner pushes Barry's patience to the limit, Sarah gives a bad-boy biker an early birthday present and Jim's Audi S3 is outlasted by a car 30 years its senior. (R)

8.00 5 News Weekend.

8.05 NCIS. A marine's teeth and fingerprints are found in a pickpocket's stolen purse, but the team discovers the real target may have been his ex-girlfriend, a skilled player of computer games. (R)

9.00 NCIS. The agents learn one of their former investigative assistants has been murdered, and had been selling information about how to rob a warehouse full of valuable possessions belonging to a woman convicted of fraud. As the case proceeds, Tony becomes infatuated with the new leader of another team, who apparently returns his feelings. (R)

10.00 CSI: Scene Scene Investigation. DB and the team investigate the murder of an inmate at Clark County Jail and learn the victim was working as an informant for the district attorney and the FBI.

10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Benson and Stabler investigate when a woman appears on a family's doorstep claiming to be their missing daughter, and says she had been abducted and kept as a sex slave. (R)

11.50 True Crimes: The First 72 Hours. Investigating whether a movie called The Great Despair motivated an act of violence in which a teenager's father, mother and autistic sister were brutally murdered. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** The Benefits Estate. (R) **4.00** I Met Your Mother. (R) **4.50** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

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BBC Three

7.00 World's Craziest Fools **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00** Film: Fright Night (2011) **11.40** Family Guy **1.50** Bluestone 42 **2.20** Uncle 2.50 Russell Howard's Good News **3.50** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Chemistry – A Volatile History **8.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.50** Tales from the Royal Wardrobe with Lucy Worsley **11.50** Top of the Pops: 1980 **12.35** Kate Bush at the BBC **1.35** The Rolling Stones at the BBC **2.20** Secret Knowledge: Hogarth – One Man and His Pug **2.50** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **3.50** Close

ITV2

11.10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **12.35** Catchphrase **1.20** The Hot Desk: Ella Henderson **1.30** Film: Twins (1988) **3.40** Mr Bean **4.45** Film: Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde (2003) **6.50** Film: Wild Wild West (1999) **9.00** Film: Rush Hour 2 (2001) **10.50** Celebrity Juice **11.35** Ibiza Weekender **12.35** Crazy Beaches **1.50** Hell's Kitchen **1.50** Fake Reaction **2.25** Life's Funniest Moments **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.45 Bertie and Elizabeth **1.50** A Touch of Frost **3.55** Wycliffe **5.00** Aagla Christie's Marple **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Inspector Morse **12.15** A Touch of Frost **2.15** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

12.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. Coverage of the opening semi-final from Llandudno. **5.15** Storage Wars **6.45** Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. **11.15** Cricket World Cup Highlights **12.15** 8 Mile (2002) **2.25** Hogan's Heroes **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.35 Marry Me **12.00** New Girl **1.00** Film: Step Up (2006) **3.10** Men, Sex & Jeopardy **4.00** Baywatch **5.00** Troy **5.50** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Daredevil (2003) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory **11.35** Rude Tube: Mashed 'n' Mixed **12.35** Troy **1.40** 2 Broke Girls **2.10** How I Met Your Mother **3.00** Don't Trust the B**** in Apartment 23 **3.45** One Tree Hill **4.30** Make It or Break It **5.00** Film4

11.00 10 Little Indians (1965) **1.00** The Phantom (1996) **3.00** Five Children and It (2004) **4.50** The China Syndrome (1979) **7.15** Airplane! (1980) **9.00** The Mechanic (2011) **10.10** The Sinister Mind (2012) **1.00** The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) **3.10** Close

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CHOICE



Louis Theroux: By Reason of Insanity (BBC2, 9pm)
The journalist immerses himself in the world of Ohio's maximum security state psychiatric hospitals, meeting patients who have committed crimes – some horrifically violent – while suffering from severe mental illnesses. In the first of a two-part programme, Louis spends time with patients who are attempting to come to terms with what they have done and talks to the clinicians entrusted with delivering the treatment it is hoped will one day lead to their reintegration back into society.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 7.30 Match of the Day. (R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.** **10.00 The Big Questions.** **11.00 Sunday Politics.** **12.15 MOTO2 Extra.** With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00 BBC News: Weather.** **1.15 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **2.15 Homes Under the Hammer.** (R) **3.15 The Truth About Sugar.** (R) **4.15 Escape to the Country.** (R) **4.45 Lifestile.** **4.55 Songs of Praise.** **5.30 BBC News.** **5.50 Regional Programme.**
6.00 The Big Painting Challenge. Una Stubbs and Richard Bacon present the art competition from Liverpool, and for the amateurs' first challenge they are asked to paint their personal interpretation of the city in watercolours. With just a week until the final, two artists make the bold decision to change their styles in a bid to impress the judges. For the quick draw, the hopefuls capture the Royal Liver Building clock tower, followed by the final challenge – a busy painting of the city's skyline from across the River Mersey.
7.00 Countryfile. Adam Henson visits the Isle of Man, finding out about 19th-century naturalist Edward Forbes and local farming. Plus, archive items about different creatures spotted over the years.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The team visits Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, where items include a 19th-century Hindu sculpture and collectibles indirectly related to the Titanic.
9.00 Poldark. Ross puts on a brave face when Elizabeth gives birth and is angered by gossip about him and Demeiza.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman introduces highlights of the latest Premier League matches, featuring Liverpool v Manchester United, Hull City v Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers v Everton.
11.40 The Football League Show. Bristol City v Walsall. Manish Bhasin presents highlights of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final at Wembley Stadium, as the League One clubs battled it out for silverware.
12.25 The Apprentice USA. **1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **1.50 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.00 Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **6.30 Great British Garden Revival.** (R) **7.30 Gardeners' World.** (R) **8.00 Countryfile.** (R) **9.00 The Football League Show.** (R) **10.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** **11.50 A Taste of Britain.** **12.20 Back in Time for Dinner.** (R) **1.20 Film: Day of the Evil Gun.** (1968) Western, starring Glenn Ford. **2.50 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em.** (R) **3.30 Three Up, Two Down.** (R) **4.00 Hide-Hill!** (R) **4.35 The Hairy Bikers** and Lorraine Pascale: Cooking the Nation's Favourite Food. (R) **5.35 Operation Stonehenge: What Lies Beneath.** (R) **6.35 Pompidou.** The thoughts of the penniless aristocrat turn to love on Valentine's Day and a chance meeting with a woman from a dating agency means his wishes might just come true.
7.00 Six Nations Greatest Moments. Gabby Logan presents a celebration of some of the most memorable moments from the rugby union competition, featuring archive action and testimonies from leading players of the past. With contributions from Jonny Wilkinson, Brian O'Driscoll, Gavin and Scott Hastings, Thomas Castaignède, Serge Betsen, Gareth Edwards, and Martin Johnson.
8.00 Caribbean with Simon Reeve. New series. The adventurer travels around the islands and mainland coast of the Caribbean Sea, beginning by visiting the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico.
9.00 Louis Theroux: By Reason of Insanity. Part one of two. The journalist visits Ohio's maximum security state psychiatric hospitals, meeting patients who have committed crimes while suffering from severe mental illnesses.
10.00 Bluestone 42. Nick is called in to rescue a squaddie who has trapped his helmet in an IED tripwire – but things soon take a worrying turn. Elsewhere, Simon makes a life-changing discovery.
10.30 Film: Red Tails. (2012) Premiere. Black US fighter pilots battle both the German air force and racism in their own ranks. Second World War drama, starring Terrence Howard and Cuba Gooding Jr.
12.25 Film: Donkeys. (2010) **1.40 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R) **2.40 Holby City.** (R) **3.40 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. **6.10 Bottom Knockers Street.** (R) **6.20 Bottom Knockers Street.** (R) **6.35 Dino Dan.** (R) **7.00 Canimals.** (R) **7.10 Sooty.** (R) **7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story.** (R) **7.30 Scrambled!** Scrambled! **7.35 Scrambled! Nerds & Monsters.** (R) **7.50 Scrambled! The Aquabats! Super Show!** (R) **8.30 Scrambled! Horrid Henry.** **8.50 Scrambled! Hulk and the Agents of Smash.** **9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **12.30 ITV News: Weather.** **12.45 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **1.45 Film: Fletch Lives.** (1989) Comedy sequel, starring Chevy Chase. **3.30 River Monsters.** (R) **4.00 Film: Twister.** (1996) Action thriller, with Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton.
6.05 Regional Programme: Weather. **6.15 ITV News: Weather.**
6.30 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Coronation Street actress Samia Ghadie (Maria Connor), The Last Leg's Alex Brooker, presenter Annabel Giles and comedian Julian Clary compete to win thousands of pounds for charity by taking on one of the show's resident trivia experts in a test of their general knowledge. However, they must work as a team to build their prize pot and stay one step ahead of the Chaser. Bradley Walsh hosts. (R)
7.30 Off Their Rockers. Royston invents the ultimate mobile phone case. Paul tests out the world's most powerful leaf blower, and Seb steals flowers from a funeral.
8.00 All Star Family Fortunes. Hollywood actor Kieron Richardson (Ste Hay) and This Morning presenter Ruth Langford team up with their families in an attempt to win thousands for charity.
9.00 Mr Selfridge. Nancy has difficulty keeping her engagement to Harry a secret from Gus, and a meddling Princess Marie makes things even trickier. Miss Maudie and Mr Grove come to blows again.
10.00 ITV News: Weather.
10.15 Bear Grylls: Mission Survive. The four remaining celebrities forage for food in the forest, endure another stormy night and face their most extreme challenge yet – crossing a 200ft ravine one by one on a rope. (R)
11.20 Live: Cup Rugby Union. **12.15 The Store.** **2.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R) **3.15 ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 How I Met Your Mother. **6.45 How I Met Your Mother.** **7.10 How I Met Your Mother.** **7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.30 Frasier.** (R) **9.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch.** **12.30 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces.** (R) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **2.30 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.00 Film: The Spy Next Door.** (2010) Comedy, starring Jackie Chan. **4.50 Channel 4 News.** **5.10 Richard III: The Return of the King.**
8.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales journey along the "London Ring", as it's known to narrowboat lovers, in a voyage of discovery through their home city. Starting in Brentford, they follow the Union Canal, and then the Regent's Canal until it meets the Thames at Limehouse. Along the way, they meet up with fellow actors Andrew Sachs and Ian McKellen, and visit the cemetery at Kensal Green, where their old friend, playwright Harold Pinter, is buried.
9.00 Indian Summers. A mountaineer saves Alice, Madeleine and Ronnie from a perilous situation and invigiles his way into Alice's affections, but she's unaware he has an ulterior motive. And when he later reveals he knows the truth about her past he leaves her in no doubt as to what exactly his silence will cost. Darius puts pressure on Roshana to accept Sita into the Dalal family fold, while Ramu is furious when he discovers Jaya has stolen his late wife's wedding dress. Dougie and Sarah work to rebuild their troubled marriage.
10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)
11.00 Film: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1. (2011) Vampire Edward and human Bella get married, but her subsequent pregnancy has dangerous implications. Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson.
1.15 Film: Bruno. (2009) Spoof documentary, starring Sacha Baron Cohen. **2.35 Come Dine with Me.** (R) **4.50 River Cottage Veg Heroes.** (R) **5.20 Kirstie's Vintage Gems.** (R) **5.35 The Common Denominator.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **6.20 Angelina Ballerina.** (R) **6.35 Pip Ahoy!** (R) **6.45 The Mr Men Show.** (R) **6.55 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.** (R) **7.00 Chloe's Closet.** (R) **7.15 Oily the Little White Van.** **7.20 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.30 Paw Patrol.** (R) **7.45 Little Princess.** (R) **8.00 Wanda and the Alien.** (R) **8.10 Zack and Quack.** **8.25 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **8.45 Jelly Jamm.** (R) **9.00 LazyTown.** **9.30 Dora and Friends.** **10.00 Sprockets.** (R) **10.30 The Dog Rescuers.** (R) **11.00 The Hotel Inspector.** (R) **12.00 The Hotel Inspector.** (R) **12.55 Film: Phenomenon.** (1996) Fantasy drama, starring John Travolta. **3.20 Film: The Borrowers.** (1997) Children's fantasy, starring John Goodman. **5.00 Film: A Cinderella Story.** (2004) Romantic comedy, starring Hilary Duff and Chad Michael Murray.
6.50 5 News Weekend.
6.55 Film: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider – The Cradle of Life. (2003) The daredevil heroine returns on a new quest, this time to search the world for the legendary Pandora's Box. However, a devious scientist is determined to get his hands on it first and realise his cunning scheme to harness the box's power as a deadly weapon. Action adventure sequel, starring Angelina Jolie, Gerard Butler, Ciaran Hinds, Chris Barrie and Djimon Hounsou. Edited for language and violence.
9.00 Film: Alex Cross. (2012) Premiere. A homicide cop pursues an ex-military assassin who has sadistically tortured and murdered a wealthy executive, leaving a surreal clue to the next victim. However, as the detective tries to bring the killing spree to an end, he finds his own family is also in the firing line. Crime thriller, starring Tyler Perry, Matthew Fox and Jean Reno.
11.05 Film: Scream 4. (2011) Three-time massacre survivor Sidney Prescott faces a new masked killer marking the 15th anniversary of the original murders. Horror sequel, starring Neve Campbell and Emma Roberts.
1.10 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10 The Restaurant Inspector.** An Afro-Caribbean restaurant in Sheffield. (R) **4.00 House Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R) **5.15 Angels of Jarm.** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 The Voice UK. **8.55 The Voice UK Results.** **9.30 Russell Howard's Good News.** **10.00 I Survived a Zombie Apocalypse.** **11.00 Family Guy.** **11.45 Bluestone 42.** **12.15 American Dad!** **12.35 I Survived a Zombie Apocalypse.** **1.35 Russell Howard's Good News.** **2.05 Bluestone 42.** **2.35 Jenny Bede: AAZ.** **2.55 Muslim Miss World.**
BBC Four
7.00 The Great War. **8.20 Pop Go the Sixties.** **8.30 Secret Knowledge: Stradivarius and Me.** **9.00 Lost Cities of the Ancients.** **10.00 Film: Sleep Tight.** (2011) **11.35 Kenny Rogers: Cards on the Table.** **12.35 Top of the Pops: The Story of 1980.** **1.35 Kings of Soul.** **2.35 Lost Cities of the Ancients.**
ITV2
12.10 Take Me Out. **1.20 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records.** **1.50 Scorpion.** **2.45 Catchphrase Celebrity Special.** **3.40 Film: Hotel Transylvania.** (2012) **5.25 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** **6.50 Film: She's the Man.** (2006) **9.00 Ibiza Weekender.** **10.00 Film: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.** (2011) **1.10 Mom.** **2.00 Life's Funniest Moments.** **2.25 Teleshopping.** **5.55 ITV2 Nightscreen.**
ITV3
11.35 A Touch of Frost. **1.40 Wycliffe.** **2.45 A Touch of Frost.** **4.45 Agatha Christie's Marple.** **6.50 Inspector Morse.** **9.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium.** **10.00 Birds of a Feather.** **10.30 City Lights.** **11.35 Film: Steptoe and Son.** (1972) **1.30 Perspectives: Lenny Henry – Finding Shakespeare.** **2.20 Judge Judy.** **2.40 Wycliffe.** **3.40 Emmerdale.**
ITV4
11. Storage Wars. **12.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix.** Coverage of the opening session of the final from Llandudno. **5.15 Storage Wars.** **5.40 River Monsters.** **6.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix.** **11.15 Nitro Circus.** **2.55 ITV4 Nightscreen.** **3.00 Teleshopping.**
E4
12.30 Revenge. **1.30 The 100.** **2.30 Rude (ish) Tube.** **2.55 How I Met Your Mother.** **3.55 Brooklyn Nine-Nine.** **4.30 The Big Bang Theory.** **7.00 Film: Gulliver's Travels.** (2010) **9.00 Troy.** **10.00 Rude Tube: Mashed 'n' Mixed.** **11.05 The Big Bang Theory.** **11.35 Tattoos After Dark.** **12.35 Taking New York.** **1.40 Rules of Engagement.** **2.30 The New Normal.** **3.20 Hollyoaks.**
Film4
11.00 The Producers. (1968) **1.00 Taxi.** (2004) **3.00 The Last Mimzy.** (2007) **4.50 Edward Scissorhands.** (1990) **6.55 America's Sweethearts.** (2001) **9.00 Hitman.** (2007) **10.50 Notorious.** (2009) **1.15 The Ballad of Jack and Rose.** (2005) **3.35 Choice.**

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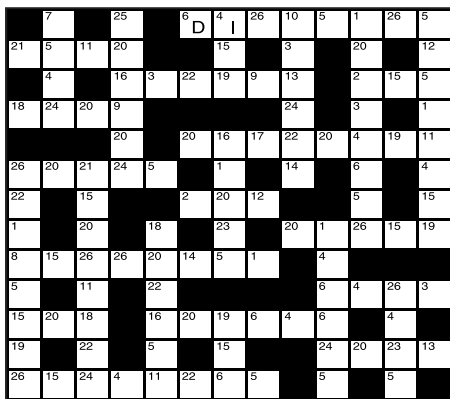
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

J	B	Q	I	R	K	N	F	G	S	U	P	E
T	M	Y	H	D	O	X	C	W	L	A	V	Z

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

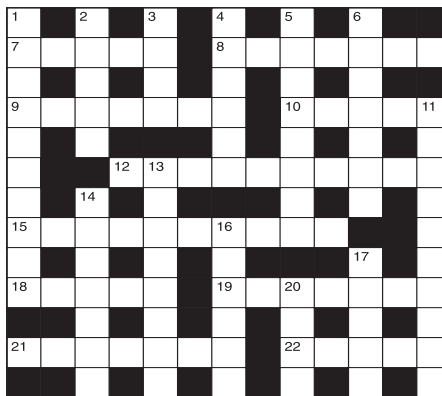
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- The way the tour is diverted to the East (5)
- Becomes snarled up at corner in back-street (7)
- An insult to a sea-side promenade, we hear (7)
- The French travel south to Nigerian port (5)
- You could find these right in the main shopping centre (4,6)
- Right-handed key (6,4)
- This coin was a sovereign (5)
- 19 & 13Dn. This will deceive the pupils (7,8)
- Individual after different name for a flower (7)
- Get to the bottom and connect the pipe-line (5)

Down

- Normal, neat decorative arrangement (10)
- They went round the necks of thugs, we hear (5)
- Famous fiddler in Stainer oratorio (4)
- What the needle produces is an acute pain (6)
- Take out of gear (8)
- Did some signalling, but became weary (7)
- Complete black suit needed by one who goes round the course (3,2,5)
- See 19 Across
- Declines to put rubbish on the top of the scrap-heap (7)
- Mob round the East whooped in triumph (6)
- Show disdain for one who reconnoitres (5)
- Betty Perkins to do some secretarial work inside (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Precept (5)
- Flood (7)
- A month (7)
- Sugary (5)
- Affirm (10)
- Emphasise (10)
- Lock (5)
- Relations (7)
- Dirty (7)
- Goodbye (5)

Down

- Book-keeper (10)
- Join (5)
- Door handle (4)
- Famish (6)
- Expectation (8)
- Indefinite (7)
- Huge (10)
- Ominous (8)
- Shriek (7)
- Harsh (6)
- Coach (5)
- Tidy (4)

Sudoku

7	9		5	2				
	3		9			4	5	
		8	1				3	
6			8	5	9			
5		1				3	8	
		9	4				6	
				7	8			
8	2		3		7			
	7		8		1	4		

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

4	9	8	2	3	5	1	7	6
7	6	1	9	8	4	5	3	2
5	2	3	6	1	7	9	8	4
6	4	7	5	2	3	8	1	9
9	8	2	4	7	1	3	6	5
3	1	5	8	9	6	4	2	7
2	5	9	3	6	8	7	4	1
8	7	4	1	5	2	6	9	3
1	3	6	7	4	9	2	5	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Restraint; 8 Air; 9 Incantation; 11 Artist; 12 Posts; 13 Canvas; 15 Prefer; 17 Avast; 18 Celsius; 20 Tuition fees; 22 Ewe; 23 Elephants. Down: 2 Eon; 3 Rings; 4 Images; 5 Tripper; 6 Sands of time; 7 Treasures; 10 Cotonest; 11 Archangel; 14 Astride; 16 Scribe; 19 Lunch; 21 Eat. QUICK - Across: 1 Prostrate; 8 Let; 9 Storm-signal; 11 Builder; 12 Baste; 13 Idiocy; 15 Repose; 17 Knave; 18 Patriot; 20 Intercepted; 22 Set; 23 Respected. Down: 2 Rat; 3 Timid; 4 Aviator; 5 Ennoble; 6 Illusionist; 7 Statement; 10 Originality; 11 Briskness; 14 Creator; 16 Sports; 19 Theme; 21 Ere.

Quiz

- Who is credited with discovering penicillin in 1928?
- In which country are the Queen's bodyguards the Royal Company of Archers?
- What was IRA man Dominic McGlinchey's nickname?
- Who wrote Strangers on a Train?
- Which bird has honey and rough-legged varieties?
- Which country was formerly known as the Gold Coast?
- Which skier is known as La Bomba?
- Who wrote Our Man in Havana?
- Which river divides Kentish Men from Men of Kent?
- Which composer's Adagietto from his 5th Symphony was used in the film Death In Venice?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Henry VIII; 2 James Herriot; 3 Essex; 4 Rene Descartes; 5 Grandsons; 6 Wild pansy; 7 Heroin; 8 Daniel Radcliffe; 9 Robinson Crusoe; 10 Inter Milan.
Niner: UNLOCATED

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

578 gives a nocturnal mammal,
98678 gives a kind of weasel,
31249 gives insects.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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DUDLEY



RUSSELLS HALL ROAD
FOR SALE OIRO £127,500
Semi Detached House comprising of: Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Two Reception Areas, Kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway, Detached Garage.

KINGSWINFORD



RANGWAYS ROAD
FOR SALE £87,500
Purpose built two bedroom ground floor flat offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN has accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and a Bathroom with the added benefits of Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, and GARAGE.

WALL HEATH



MILLERS GREEN DRIVE
FOR SALE £293,950
Detached Property comprising of: Entrance Hall & WC, Lounge, IMPRESSIVE KITCHEN/DINER, FOUR BEDROOMS, en suite, Family Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, GARAGE.

WORDSLEY



INGATSTONE DRIVE
FOR SALE £131,995
Purpose Built Flat just off Cot Lane in Kingswinford. Comprises of: Communal entry, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Good Sized Bedrooms, Shower Room. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Communal Grounds.

WORDSLEY



HIGH STREET
£485 pcm*
First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

SEDGLEY



LAUDER CLOSE
£625 pcm*
Terrace Property, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, WC, Storage, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens

WORDSLEY



LAWNSWOOD ROAD
£425 pcm*
First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking

GORNAL



OX STREET
£625 pcm*
Semi Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing

RUSSELLS HALL



FALCON WAY
£550 pcm*
Semi Detached House, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Front and Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking.

WORDSLEY



BRACKEN PARK GARDENS
£435 pcm*
Top Floor Flat, Large Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom with shower, Electric Heating, Sealed Units, Off Road Parking

LYE



SUMMER STREET
£470 pcm*
Mid Terrace Property, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Rear Garden, Part Furnished

WORDSLEY



CAMELLIA GARDENS
£540 pcm*
Ground Floor Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished

WORDSLEY



LAWNSWOOD ROAD
£675 pcm*
Semi Detached Property, Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished

KINGSWINFORD



OAKFIELD AVENUE
£795 pcm*
Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

PENSNETT



TANSEY GREEN ROAD
£610 pcm*
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking

DUDLEY



STOURBRIDGE ROAD
£550 pcm*
Large First Floor Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

DUDLEY



ATTINGHAM DRIVE
£350 pcm*
First Floor Studio Apartment, Communal Entrance, Open Plan Kitchen, Lounge/Dining/Bedroom Area, Shower Room, Car Port, Communal Grounds, Double Glazing, Electric Heating

COSELEY



ANDERSLEIGH DRIVE
£395 pcm*
First Floor Apartment, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

AMBLECOTE



KING WILLIAM STREET
£380 pcm*
SHARED ACCOMMODATION, Part Furnished, Communal Kitchen & Bathroom, Two Bedrooms (occupied), FIRST FLOOR: Two Bedrooms, (one occupied), Office, Communal Toilet with wash hand basin, RENT INCLUDES UTILITY BILLS

COSELEY



GALBRAITH CLOSE
£625 pcm*
Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Downstairs Cloakroom, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom, Off Road Parking for 1 - 2 cars, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

BRIERLEY HILL



DADFORD VIEW
£375 pcm*
Ground Floor Flat, Lounge/Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom with shower, Allocated Parking, Front Garden, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

BRIERLEY HILL



BISELL WAY
£395 pcm*
First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Allocated Parking

COLLEY GATE



WINDMILL HILL
£425 pcm*
First floor flat, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Electric Heating, Off Road Parking

DUDLEY



ST BENEDICT COURT
£650 pcm*
Newly Built Mid Terrace House, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Cloakroom, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Off Road Parking, Garden, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing

PROPERTY

Detached family home in a sought after area



NUMBER 57 Melrose Avenue, Pedmore, Stourbridge, is a detached family residence in a sought after area.

It is for sale through Andrew Grant at £365,000. It has a off road parking, an entrance hall with stairs off, WC, living room with a bay window and a living flame effect gas fire, dining room with a patio door, a kitchen diner with an extractor, dishwasher, fridge and microwave and dining area, utility, study, four bedrooms (master en-suite), a bathroom, garden with a patio and a garage. Contact Andrew Grant on 01384 440993 or visit www.andrew-grant.co.uk



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● Great Locatio
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£485 PCM



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● 1 Bed Flat
● First Floor
● Off Street Parking
● Communal Garden
● EPC D
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PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



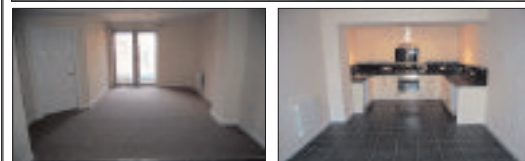
MADISON AVENUE MERRY HILL

A well presented and spacious three bedroom three storey town house situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, study, downstairs WC, good sized fitted dining kitchen. On the first floor there is a lounge and master bedroom with en-suite, on the second floor there is a second bedroom with en-suite and third bedroom along with a house bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas fired central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£675.00PCM DEPOSIT £775 • FEES



VICARAGE ROAD LYE

A Three bedroom Mid Terrace property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, inner hall, dining room, kitchen, rear lobby, bathroom, first floor landing and three bedrooms. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and rear paved garden with part brick built store. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£575.00PCM DEPOSIT £675 • FEES



KINGS MEWS WOLLASTON

A brand new one bedroom ground floor apartment within walking distance of Wollaston Village. The accommodation comprises of: Communal entrance hall with entry phone system, private entrance hall, spacious open plan lounge/kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having double glazing, electric heating, paved patio area the the fore and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£475.00PCM DEPOSIT £575 • FEES



GREENSFORGE LANE STOURTON

An elegant and impressive house set in a mature wooded setting offering both seclusion and privacy and being close to Stourbridge, having excellent road links and schools. The accommodation comprises of: Reception Hall, drawing room, library, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, games room, conservatory, cloakroom, cellar, master bedroom with en-suite, five further bedrooms and two bathrooms. The property further boasts integral garaging, driveway affording parking, beautiful terraced garden with mature woodland, all weather tennis court and outbuildings. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: MAY SMOKERS: NO
£5000PCM DEPOSIT £10000 • FEES



QUARRY PARK ROAD STOURBRIDGE

An impressive seven bedroom detached family home situated in a very desirable location and being close to Hagley village. The accommodation comprises of: Grand reception hall, sitting room, drawing room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, utility, cloakroom, rear entrance hall, seven double bedrooms five of which have en suite facilities, family bathroom and a spacious first floor landing/seating area with door out to a balcony. The property further boasts paved parking for numerous vehicles, single garage with up and over garage doors and landscaped lawned gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£2999PCM DEPOSIT £3099 • FEES



OLD MILL FARM HOUSE

An Impressive Five Bedroom Property covering Three Storeys, being set in a Highly Sought After Rural Location. Accommodation comprises: Ground Floor - Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs WC and Lobby, First Floor - Bedrooms One and Two, both with En-Suites Shower Rooms Bedroom has En-Suite Bathroom. Second Floor - Bedrooms Four and Five and House Bathroom. In addition to a large Cellar there is a Double Garage, Storage Buildings and outside WC. The Property is approached by a gravelled driveway leading to the rear of the property where there is ample off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: MAY SMOKERS: NO
£2000PCM DEPOSIT £2100 •



SOUTHERN CLOSE

An extremely well presented Four Bedroom Detached property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of Reception Hall, Guest Cloakroom/WC, Lounge, separate Dining Room, extended fitted Kitchen, Conservatory and Utility room. There are four good sized bedrooms - the main having en-suite and Bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, rear garden and garage with storage room. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£795PCM DEPOSIT £895 •



BEECHER STREET COLLEY

A Three bedroom detached Bungalow refurbished to a good standard and situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Porch, entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, double glazing, rear blocked paved patio and lawn and driveway to the fore affording off road parking for two vehicles. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£675PCM DEPOSIT £775 •



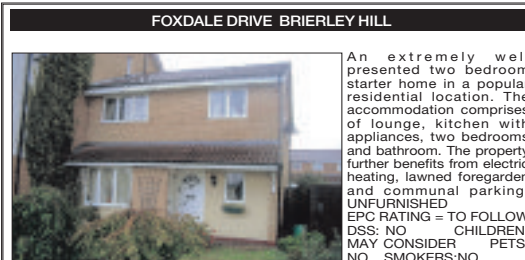
STEWPLY COURT STOURTON

An extremely well presented two bedroom first floor apartment situated in a popular residential location, the accommodation comprises of entrance hall, lounge fitted kitchen, master bedroom with en-suite, second bedroom and bathroom. The property benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = B DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£600PCM DEPOSIT £700 •



TIMES SQUARE MERRY HILL

An extremely well presented unfurnished one bedroom apartment situated in the heart of the Merry Hill Centre close to all amenities. Accommodation comprises of Video entry system, entrance hall, fitted kitchen, lounge, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having electric heating and double glazing and allocated parking space. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£495PCM DEPOSIT £595 • FEES



FOXDALE DRIVE BRIERLEY HILL

An extremely well presented two bedroom starter home in a popular residential location. The accommodation comprises of lounge, kitchen with appliances, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from electric heating, lawned foregarden and communal parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = TO FOLLOW DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£450PCM DEPOSIT £550 • FEES



DADFORD VIEW BRIERLEY HILL

An attractive modern starter home situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Open Plan lounge/kitchen, two Bedrooms and Shower Room. The property also benefits from sealed unit Double Glazing, en-suite, fore garden and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£450PCM DEPOSIT £550 • FEES



SPIRAL COURT STOURBRIDGE

A well presented one bedroom third floor apartment situated close to all amenities of Stourbridge Town Centre with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, Lounge, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having double glazing, electric storage heating, parking and communal gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£425.00 DEPOSIT £525 • FEES



MORVALE GARDENS LYE

A Spacious and extremely well presented two bedroom ground floor apartment with accommodation to comprise of: entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts Gas central heating, double glazing, communal gardens and en-bloc garage. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£425PCM DEPOSIT £525 • FEES



MOUNT ROAD STOURBRIDGE

A well presented one bedroom ground floor flat situated in a popular residential location, accommodation comprises of lounge, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom and cellar. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, off road parking and garage. Viewing highly recommended. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£420PCM DEPOSIT £520 •



WILLOWDALE GRANGE

A Two Bedroom Ground floor apartment with accommodation to comprise of: Open Plan lounge/kitchen, inner hall, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from having electric panel heaters, double glazing and communal grounds with an allocated parking space. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£395PCM DEPOSIT £495 • FEES



HIGH STREET QUARRY BANK

A spacious one bedroom first floor apartment situated close to all amenities with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, fitted kitchen, double bedroom with shower cubicle and separate WC. The property further boasts electric storage heating, decked terrace affording lovely views and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£350PCM DEPOSIT £450 • FEES

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COMPTON ROAD CRADLEY HEATH

A well presented first floor apartment with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, first floor landing, lounge, kitchen, bedroom and shower room. The property further boasts gas central heating, double glazing and shared parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£350.00PCM DEPOSIT £450 • FEES

Express Repairs for Minor Accident Damage



✓ Bumper scuffs

✓ Kerbed alloys

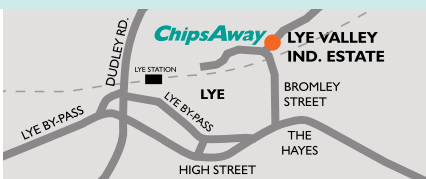


✓ Paintwork scratches

✓ Dented panels

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DRIVETIME



Showcase your style in Adam

Vauxhall retailer Stourbridge Motor House is encouraging drivers to showcase their style with Vauxhall's customisable city car, Adam.

Adam is Vauxhall's first-ever personalised urban-chic four-seater, which lets drivers set the trend. It's fun, funky, fashionable and all about personalisation. It comes in a choice of trims – Jam (fashionable /colourful), Glam (elegant/sophisticated) and Slam (racy/sporty) – as well as a range of wheel designs, interior trims and body colours. Plus, with colour names like 'Saturday White Fever', 'James Blonde', 'Purple Fiction' and 'Papa Don't Peach', there's never been a more exciting way for owners to portray their inner style.

For even greater choice, the rugged

Adam Rocks, open-top Adam Rocks Air and performance-version Adam Grand Slam trims also complement the impressive portfolio.

Michael Casey, general manager at the retailer, said: "The Vauxhall Adam can be customised in over a million different ways. Drivers who are keen to showcase their style and present their personality on the road can choose every detail of their Adam and inject so much of their character into the design of their chosen trim. As such, we are inviting fun-loving, fashion-conscious drivers to become mad about the boy and consider the benefits of owning a Vauxhall Adam."

To make Adam more appealing to drivers, until April 6, 2015, customers aged between 21-75 could benefit from free insurance for a year when they buy a new Vauxhall Adam (ex-

cluding Grand Slam) via one of two specific finance packages.

In addition, new Adam customers aged between 18 and 20 years could be insured for just £99 for a year when they purchase a new Vauxhall Adam (excluding Grand Slam) via one of the same two specific finance packages and have a Telematics box fitted. 18 – 20 year old drivers could also earn their premium back for driving well.

To be eligible, drivers need to have held a driving license for over a year. To find out more about the Vauxhall Adam, and for full details of the insurance offers, eligibility, terms and conditions, contact Stourbridge Motor House at High Street, Amblecote, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 4DG. Alternatively, go online to www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk or call 01384 447970.

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REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: VAUXHALL CORSA STING 1.2i 70PS 3DR (RED)*

23 monthly payments	Cash price	Customer deposit	Amount of credit	Interest charges	Total amount payable	Optional final payment	Mileage per annum	Excess mileage charge	Fixed rate of interest per year
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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Highest: VAUXHALL Corsa 5 Door Hatchback 1.2i 90PS Excite with 16" wheels, M5: Urban: 42.8 (6.6), Extra-urban: 62.8 (4.5), Combined: 53.3 (5.3). CO₂ emissions: 124g/km Lowest: VAUXHALL Corsa 5 Door Hatchback 1.0i 90PS SE Turbo Stop/Start ecoFLEX with 16" wheels, M6: Urban: 51.4 (5.5), Extra-urban: 72.4 (3.9), Combined: 62.8 (4.5). CO₂ emissions: 106g/km. Available at participating retailers only. Conditional Sale. Offers available on orders or registrations made by 31st March 2015. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Pictures for illustration purposes only. *Offer subject to availability at participating Retailers only. Personal Contract Purchase. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Finance by Vauxhall Finance. PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. 24-36 month term available. At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) Retain the vehicle. Pay the optional final payment to own the vehicle. ii) Return the vehicle. or iii) Replace. Part Exchange the vehicle. where equity is available. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. Subject to our fair wear and tear terms and conditions.

Citroën C4 now even better after an upgrade

By Matt Kimberley

Citroën used to be a byword for comfort, and we loved it for that. The firm is finally moving back in that direction, and the new C4 is at the forefront.

The C4 has a lot going for it, but upgrades were needed for it to stay with the pack. Tweaks to the headlights and styling details are more or less the extent of the exterior changes, but quality is on an upward trend with new technology and media interface options.

Citroën is quickly rejuvenating an identity: comfort. The press release accompanying the car's launch is crammed full of the word. Citroën is really beginning to feel like a different brand from its sister company Peugeot – and that's good news for both.

The C4 has what you'd call an aggressively French front end. Steeply angled headlight clusters give off an angry vibe, but the rest of the shape is pretty warm and fuzzy.

It's a good-looking car but you'd have a tough time arguing that it matches class leaders for image.

On the other hand, Citroën is doing everything it can to make its brand identity synonymous with comfort. Soon enough the French firm hopes that anyone looking for a comfortable everyday car will make Citroën their first stop.

You can't argue with the numbers: the C4 has comfortably the biggest boot among its direct rivals at 408 litres. That's seven percent or 28 litres bigger than a Volkswagen Golf's. The Skoda Octavia's is bigger again, but that's a much longer car.

In the front door pockets you'll find space for those chunky 1.5-litre drinks bottles you find at motorway service stations and takeaways.

The glove box can fit many gloves in it, too, and the only real oversight is that when you pull the floor-mounted luggage net in the boot upwards, it can bring the whole floor with it.

Impression

The petrol and diesel models are surprisingly different to drive. The lighter petrol engine links to an over-light, elastic-feeling steering set-up that doesn't inspire confidence, but the diesel's calibration is more linear, more predictable and gives you the impression of more feel.

In total opposition to Peugeot's approach with the 308, the C4's steering is snail-slow. It takes more turning action to get this car turned in – an impression exaggerated by the huge steering wheel.

The new automated manual gearbox is, thankfully, a vast improvement over previous units. You'd seriously consider buying one, now.

This C4 rides very well, too, especially over smoothly undulating folds in the road. Flex in the suspension means that sharper bumps can knock it slightly off its line, especially in corners, but not by an exceptional amount.

The C4 is a decently refined cruiser, especially for such a relatively reasonable asking price.

Seeing the range top out at a whisker over £20,000 is a surprise. Rivals cost significantly more and you'd argue that there's not much about the C4, in high-end Flair trim at least, that feels particularly cheap. You get a lot of space for your pound, too, and especially in the case of the diesel you get super-low running costs.

A family that prioritises comfort and budget would love the C4. Five useful seats, lots of standard safety equipment and even more on the options list make it a very handy family bus.

But it's also a confident cruiser and will return decent fuel economy if driven steadily, so company car buyers might want to take a look.

This car summed up in a single word : Sanguine

If this car was: a contestant on Countdown it wouldn't worry itself about not winning the words rounds as it would do so well with the numbers



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Representative Example, C4 G Picasso AO61 JBX, Cash Price £9995 Cash Deposit £100, P/X £1422.73
Total Deposit £1522.73, Balance £8472.27, Acceptance Fee £199, Option To Purchase Fee £199,
48 Payments Of £150 Followed By One Final Payment Of £3081.25, APR 8.5% Representative.

TESTED

Citroën C4 1.2 PureTech 130 Flair, from £18,245

Engine: Turbocharged three-cylinder petrol producing 128bhp and 170lb/ft

Transmission: Six-speed manual driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 124mph, 0-62mph in 10.8 seconds

Fuel Economy: 58.9mpg (16-inch wheels)

Emissions: 110g/km (16-inch wheels)



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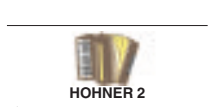
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HELEN feisty redhead with many interests including beach walks, quiet nights in, looking for male with GSOH and a passion for travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413869

ASIAN lady, single, 32 yrs old, W/LTM professional man, 32+, for friendship, maybe more. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4468368

ANN slim attractive widowed but not past being loved lady, loves travel, country good conversation, W/LTM kind genuine male, 35-65 for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413453

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399

JANET tall beautiful brunette, slim 12, separated, enjoys life, no hang ups, wanting quality time, friendship and possible romance with similar guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413415

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301

ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765

ANNE, mid 40's, cheerful busty curvy affectionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or looks for nights at mine. Tel No: 0905 002 1953 Box No: 410291

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active, W/LTM N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441

DISCREET lady, 42yrs wants to make you happy, come to me and let me do that for you. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 409091

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207

TARA, confident lady, long legs, long hair, seeks a saucy man of any age for daytime, no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1913 Box No: 414701

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to find out more. Aca. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013

KELLY, 42yrs, loves to chat and flirt with guys on-line and by text. Box No: 4656847

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for poss ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410065

STACY, 51yrs, new to area, hopes to meet new friends, any age for fun and friendship. Box No: 4656848

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/race unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927

MARY, 32yrs, attractive brunette loves older mature gents who have lots of interests. Box No: 4656849

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart, special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if I like me you are fed up with always being the single friend! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412987

CAROLINE, sophisticated feminine lady, just turned 40 and wants to meet new friends. Box No: 4656850

LORRAINE 51 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, looking for someone to look after me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543

JAN 5ft8ins slim pretty lady in great shape, openminded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, W/LTM someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. Aca. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931

JANE, bored at home, doesn't get out much and wants flirty chats, she's 39 but looks younger. Box No: 4656851

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412911

MINDY, American lady moved to UK and looking to meet British chap for chats, fun, more. Box No: 4656852

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

SOPHIE is 35yrs, blonde, attractive, chatty and flirtatious. Please text if you want to hear more. Box No: 4656854

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojoi No strings, go on call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

LINDY, broadminded mid 40's lady loves to chat about anything with anyone. Box No: 4656856

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

BARBARA, caring lady, 54yrs, doesn't get out much, works nights, looking for daytime chats with men any age. Box No: 4656855

JAN slim curvy professional woman, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and biker for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725

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KAREN pretty, looking, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377

JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, W/LTM older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412359

JULIE lovely fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, to let to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411517

GWENDOLINE honest, trustworthy, seeks caring who enjoys cinema, theatre, holidays and nights out for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412293

WIDOW 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411745

DIANE voluptuous curvy and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, W/LTM nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412321

SARA bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meets, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412055

EMMA petite young looking 31yr old attractive single brunette, loves walking, walking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412037

ANNABELL 29 slim sophisticated well travelled interesting sensual fit brunette with lots to offer seeks older male to appreciate and treat me well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412177

KAREN slim, tall, attractive 36yr old normal female who likes shopping, socialising, nights in/out seeking thoughtful genuine male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412041

KIM 25yrs feminine, pretty, big blue eyes, GSOH, varied interests, likes romantic beach walks, cosy nights in, seeking honest loving man for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411777

CAROL young 47, caring, loyal, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

PROFESSIONAL black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable gent, possibly farmer for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411763

VICKY 37yr professional, mum to one, sensual and very attractive, looking for a real man, tall, fit, sincere and passionate to enjoy each other's company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411695

LUCY beautiful busty bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty boy to enjoy the fun side of life, with, age, status and looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691

LINDA single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, W/LTM similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410119

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847

CAROL 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410721

CLAIRE voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine/food, travel, W/LTM tall professional for romance dates and hopefully ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410627

MICHELLE 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you could be him and have nothing to loose call me for a chat. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415

TAYLOR 21 black beautiful classy intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409911

WENDY 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410499

73YR old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410331

NICKY bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking similar GSOH for possible ltr. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479

KAREN 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc. W/LTM for more than just friendship with similar chilled, kind, easy going guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410461

LIZ 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410095

ZOE 25 long haired sensual female, very naughty, broadminded and open, looking for similar fun guy for uncomplicated adult meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408859

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and what happens when you live once you remember! 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959

SUE 34, likes most things in life, even football looking for my Mr Wonderful thought I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to lose, call me. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410785

CAROL slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va va voom, 35-45. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411329

SUE 38, attractive broadminded attentive, enjoys meals in/out etc, not necessarily looking for Mr Right as Mr Wrong or even Mr Right now could be fun! Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411049

ANGIE attractive slim blonde just looking for a lovely spontaneous guy who like me just wants good company and a nice relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410641

KATHERINE 35yr old outgoing single female looking to enjoy dates with similar male also looking for fun times in or out. Age, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410565

PAULINE attractive divorced female with no ties, employed with my own home, likes nights in/out, lots of t to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411039

JEN attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's you pls get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410949

ARE you dark or bald, with hairy chest, well built, educated, verbal, articulate dom or sub, broadminded and ready to be put in your place? Curious to find out more? Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410637

29YR old black beautiful tall loving very sensual lady, likes football, making friends, seeking genuine white male for enjoyable loving relationship, pls no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410577

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407943

JOANNA 34, in need of fit, winning, dining being treated like the princess I am, looking for sugar daddy, that someone special to love me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408869

MARIA gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408733

KIM attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408489

TAYLOR attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with openminded male who is also looking for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408311

BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408253

KIRSTY blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, W/LTM broadminded male for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409259

MALE seeking female companion for friendship and holidays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412705

STEPHEN 58, good looking, likes art, travel, seeking female, 50 plus for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412633

MALCOLM 61, smoker, great personality, likes coach holidays, drives, pubs, meals out, nights out, 60's music, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412523

TALL 42yr old sincere male, caring, honest, loving, seeking female, 30-40 for fun, friendship and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412483

MARK fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, trained, looking for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989

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JANE attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715

JILL 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411015

ATTRACTION professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408995

ELAINE attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410117

DONNA 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409733

MARGARET OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things W/LTM caring male with similar refined tastes. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407925

ATTRACTION 49yr old divorced lady, looking for honest, reliable man for LTR, 49-60. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409955

ABBA girl blonde lookalike, size 16, attractive, bubbly, OHAC, seeking solvent, refined, handsome guy with full head of hair, fits this plus, professional and courteous. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409151

NEETA Black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs loves to enjoy life, have lots of fun and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age, looks and status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409101

HI I'm Jo, first timer, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409089

SUSIE 32yr old nurse who likes cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408877

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407943

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MARK fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, trained, looking for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989

STEVE 60, seeks slim blonde for no strings fun and weekends away. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413703

PHILIP, widowed single dad with 2 teenage girls, solvent, own town hair! W/LTM single mum of any age to spoil. Box No: 4656852

ROBERT 59, N/S, fit, slim, seeks attractive slim female for discreet no strings friendship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413655

MALE 49, 6ft, seeks lady for discreet fun times. Must accom. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413819

TALL slim gent, 60, seeks slim, attractive lady for no strings relationship. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412227

IAN 65, romantic, likes to wine/dine, days out, seeking younger female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412087

FIT bubbly male, athletic, blue eyes, short fair hair, easy going, loving, GSOH, seeking female for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411901

TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801

MALE 74, fit, N/S, OHAC, seeks slim lady of similar age for days out, holidays and walks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411673

TALL

Hagley win opens up three-way title race

HAGLEY'S win makes it a three-way title race and they will play the leaders Oldswinford next week.

Swindon (106-5) lost to Hagley (107-3)

Swindon elected to bat and most of the order got off to decent starts without finishing the job. However, Hagley were in a generous mood and kindly kept the score moving with a significant contribution of wides.

Joe Lennon again took two wickets in his three overs and is well in contention for becoming leading wicket taker in the league.

The feeling Swindon had not put enough runs on the board was soon confirmed as Joe Lennon got Hagley off to a flyer, retiring with his 25 in the second over.

John Russell (26 no) at the other end, promoted to open, had at this stage not seen much of the strike, but was determined to correct that in the next eight overs as he 'anchored' the innings to retire in the 10th. A few quick runs were then the order and with the return of Lennon (29 no) hitting his first ball for four the game was won.

Envile B (132-5) beat Belbroughton (102-5) by 30 runs

Although Envile B won this encounter, as they had to play with two ineligible players to make up the six, they had conceded the points to Belbroughton prior to the start and the game proceeded on a friendly basis.

In the event Envile won, Spencer Mann (44no) and Rhodri Parfitt (39), without the ineligible players making a significant contribution. For Belbroughton Will Pardoe top-scored with 30no.

Wrens push Team deeper into trouble

Team Dudley 1 Wrens Nest 2
WRENS Nest plunged local rivals Team Dudley further into relegation trouble with a 2-1 win in West Midlands Division One.

Wrens Nest drew first blood when Mitch Blackham was adjudged to have upended leading goal scorer Stuart Hillman, from the resulting penalty Chris Rhodes scored his ninth league goal of the season.

A James Hill thunderbolt from a full 25 yards got TD on level terms. Hillman went close on two occasions before half time.

The second half saw former TD player Ben Scriven grab what would turn out to be the winner on 48 minutes when he latched onto a loose ball on the edge of the area to drive home.

Grant Trevis kept TD in the game with a couple of smart saves.

Squad boosted for new season

HALESOWEN have boosted their side for the new Birmingham Cricket League Second Division season by swooping for Brockhampton duo Ben Stebbings and Will Barrett.

The Seth Somers Park club are also hoping to welcome back last year's overseas player Tarryck Gabriel with the St Lucia star currently awaiting clearance from the authorities after submitting his visa application.

Opening bat Stebbings boasts a healthy near 40 run average and will bring some much-needed scoring potential to the Halesowen batting after the loss of Will Fraine to Division One side Himley.

All rounder Barrett, the captain of the Cambridge

MCC University team this year, will add depth to the batting line up and his left arm, fast medium action will bring another dimension to an already potent bowling attack.

Stebbings said: "I'm very excited to be taking on a new challenge and joining an ambitious club looking to reclaim a place in the higher divisions."

Barrett, meanwhile, admits he was impressed with the club's vision for the future.

He said: "I was very impressed with what I heard from the club in terms of their aspirations for the coming seasons and I'm looking forward to meeting up with the lads shortly. Knowing Stebbo well from our previous club is a massive bonus." Chairman

Richard Evans said: "I have no doubt that both Ben and Will will make telling contributions this year and we're very excited that they both chose to join us.

For the first time in it's 160 year history the club is proud to announce the formation of a girl's team.

About 18 girls, mainly but not entirely, drawn from the under-10 age group at Howley Grange School have been training together during the winter and the club would actively encourage any other girls interested in joining the squad to come to the club on Monday evenings once training moves outdoors. Youth Coach Carl Bust said: "We are indebted to the PTA at Howley Grange School."

FC United stand up to Yeltz pressure

Halesowen Town 0 FC United of Manchester 1
A BUMPER crowd of 1,478 saw title favourites FC United of Manchester defy all Halesowen's pressure to snatch victory with a late goal.

The Yeltz pushed forward from the start to force eight first half corners in a hard-fought game between the two best defences in the league.

Aaron Griffiths and Joe Hull both went close early on and a 33rd minute header from Kris Green was tipped away at the foot of the post by FC United goalkeeper David Carnell.

After soaking up the first half pressure, FC United started to find their feet and finally went close in the 41st minute when Greg Daniels flicked on for Thomas Greaves to hit just over the bar.

Matthew Wolfenden then hit a fierce 20 yard shot over the home bar on the hour mark.

Ben Haseley finally broke free of the solid FC United defence in the 70th minute but Jerome Wright and Chris Lynch made a vital block as he paused for a split second.

Asa Charlton then headed just wide after 72 minutes as Halesowen's corner tally reached double figures.

Credentials

But FC United showed their title credentials by grabbing all three points when Craig Lindfield netted a 76th minute close range header from Joe Fox's left-wing cross after Lindfield's initial effort was blocked.

The visitors saw out the rest of the game in a professional manner although Carnell raced out of goal to block yet another injury time chance from Haseley.

Halesowen Town: Sargeant; Green, Griffiths, Forde, Hull (c), Tilt, Charlton, Tonks, Christie, Haseley, Bragoli (A. Daniels 83).

Unused Subs: Turner, Heard, Watson, Pearson (GK).

FC United of Manchester: Carnell; Brownhill, G. Daniels, Birch (c) (Fox 17), Lacy, Lynch, Wolfenden (Fallon 74), Brown, Greaves (Bayunu 86), Wright, Lindfield.

Unused Subs: Payne, Byrne.

Referee: Nigel Smith

Attendance: 1,478

Home clash for new Heathens



The new look Cradley Heathens who have their first home clash against the Brummies next week

CRADLEY Heathens stage their first 'home' meeting at Perry Barr Stadium next Wednesday – and teenage star Nathan Greaves can't wait.

The Heathens, who switched to Birmingham for the 2015 season after losing the use of Wolverhampton last October, face the Brummies in the second leg of the Travel Plus Tours Trophy.

And Greaves, the former Brit-

ish Youth Champion, is delighted to have a new home track to build on his experience of the past two seasons.

After taking his first lap around their new venue at the press and practice day last week he is optimistic about what the new season may hold.

Said Greaves: "It was a good day, finally getting some laps under my belt and I felt good in

terms of finding different setups for Perry Barr.

"It took me quite a while to get to grips with Monmore and I still didn't quite manage it – as soon as I came close we moved which was frustrating!

"It's a new challenge now."

Admission next Wednesday is £11 adults, £8 concessions and £2 children. A full colour 40-page programme will be available for £3.

DK Runners race around iconic track Silverstone

Dudley Kingswinford Running Club travelled to Silverstone for the Silverstone Half Marathon.

On a windy morning that possibly slowed times a little, Matt Biggs was 164th in 1.27.07, Graham Wildgoose clocked 1.30.01 to take 206th place, Mark Judge finishing in 318th in 1.30.12 and Phil Morris was 6054th in 2.37.11.

Elsewhere runners were also competing in the Fradley 10k with Karen Doy finishing in 49.03 to take 293rd place, Liz Hettle was 302nd in 49.30 and Jo Clare was 347th in 50.54.

While some runners were busy racing at the weekend it's the time of year for beginners to start thinking about taking that most important first step as Dudley Kingswinford Running Club will be holding a Beginners Course starting on Tuesday March 31at 7pm from DK Rugby Club.

The aim of the course is to build up fitness over a 10-week period to enable beginners to complete the club's Gavin Tipper 5k on the 4th June, starting from being able to walk round the rugby pitch and steadily building up to finish 5k.

The only entry requirement being you must be able to walk for at least 15 minutes at a brisk pace. The cost of the course is £35 per person which includes free entry to the Gavin Tipper 5k and a DK Running Club T shirt.

Last year the course raised £4,850 for Action Heart, the cardiac rehabilitation charity based at Russell's Hall Hospital.

Registration will take place on Thursday March 26 but for more detail please contact John Glover on 07748212443.

Harriers have unveiled a new vice-chairman

KIDDERMINSTER Harriers have unveiled former Halesowen Harriers boss Rod Brown as their new vice chairman.

Brown recently stepped down as manager of Midland League Premier side Stourport Swifts, following his second spell at the club.

His managerial career began 24 years ago when he and then-assistant Gary Whild – now Harriers manager – guided Stourport to two promotions.

Both then made the move to Redditch United in 2001 and led them to the Conference North.

It is Brown's first role at boardroom level.

Brown has also managed Halesowen Harriers, Bromsgrove Rovers, Rugby and Stratford Town but this will be his first role at boardroom level.

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The fascinating city of Reyjavik with its brightly painted wooden buildings stand out in sharp contrast to the stunning beauty of its setting of water, ice and lava fields. With a host of restaurants, bars, cafes and shops selling goods that are no longer eye-wateringly expensive, justifies its claim to be amongst Europe's most 'happening' cities.

Get acquainted with the surroundings on a guided tour. Amongst the highlights will be the extraordinary 'Pearl', a collection of disused water tanks now crowned with a glass dome and a viewing platform offering stunning views of the city and harbour.

See the Presidential Residence in its idyllic shoreside setting at Bessastöir, and the brightly coloured fishing town of Hafnarfjörð, as well as the Lutheran Cathedral, the Houses of Parliament and the towering Hallgrím's Church.

Join the optional Golden Circle tour to explore Thingvellir, a great lava arena deep in the Continental Rift valley. Take in the active geothermal area site where the 'original' Geysir is now all but extinct, but where its neighbour Strokkur spouts impressively. The day ends with a visit to the stunning Gullfoss waterfall and the Frioheimar greenhouse cultivation centre where produce is grown with the aid of geothermal heat.

For many, the highlight of the trip will be a journey out of the city in search of sighting the fabled Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights, if lucky enough to view them, they are a never-to-be-forgotten sight.

The five-day break alternative ends with an optional excursion to the world-famous 'Blue Lagoon' outdoor spa, whose mineral-rich waters are recognised for their health-giving properties.

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Sport

Yeltz pressure not enough for win

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Home clash for new Heathens

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Glassboys grab first win in nine

Ramsbottom Utd 0 Stourbridge 1

THE Glassboys picked up three very welcome points from their first win in nine Evo-Stik League games, thanks to an early strike from Kayelden Brown.

There were three changes from the Stourbridge team that faced the same opposition at Amblecote recently.

Josh Quaynor, Josh Morgan-Parker and Kayelden Brown were recalled to the starting eleven in place of Jordan Fitzpatrick, Reece Hales and Chris Knight, who had been unable to shake off the knock he sustained in that match.

Once again Stourbridge were ahead in the opening stages of the game. Just nine minutes had elapsed when a good passing move by the Glassboys left Brown with a simple tap-in to open the scoring.

Stourbridge gained revenge for their midweek defeat by lowly Ramsbottom with Kayelden Brown netting the only goal of the game after just nine minutes.

But the Glassboys also needed keeper Dean Coleman to be at the top of his game in the closing stages to deny the Lancashire outfit a late equaliser and end the away side's nine-match winless run.

Stour completely dominated the first half, helped by Brown's side-footed effort following some excellent work by Junior Smikle.

And it should have been a straightforward three points after Ramsbottom defender Alex Frost saw red just before the break after collecting two bookings.

But United's 10 men lifted their game in the second half as they looked to build on their 2-1 victory in the Black Country.

Powerful front man Vinny Mkendi saw his downward header kept out by the Glassboys keeper.

Fletcher can be at the vanguard of survival, Morrison

JAMES Morrison insists Darren Fletcher has been the perfect man to spearhead West Brom's survival fight.

The midfielder believes four-time Premier League title winner Fletcher deserves instant respect from the Albion squad.

Fletcher was given the Baggies' captaincy by boss Tony Pulis after joining from Manchester United in January and has played a key role in lifting them eight points clear of the Barclays Premier League relegation zone.

And Morrison, who has been called into the Scotland squad with Fletcher for their friendly against Northern Ireland and Euro 2016 qualifier with Gibraltar this month, insists his team-mate is their ideal midfield general.

He said: "He's a great lad, he's a leader and he barks his orders. "He's got that respect and he deserves it for what he's done in the game.

"Obviously I have played with Darren for many years for Scotland. I know his game and I think he knows mine and we slotted in perfectly.

"We've got a good bunch of lads in the group and he has slotted in perfectly."

Kuszczyk is tipped to bounce back

TOMASZ KUSZCZYK has been handed a vote of confidence by Wolves boss Kenny Jackett.

The former Albion and Manchester United keeper had an indifferent return to Brighton on Saturday when he allowed Bruno's opener under him and spilled Joao Teixeira's shot that led to Craig Mackail-Smith's offside effort.

"He's done very well and particularly initially when he came in for Carl Ikeme because he hadn't played for a long time. Tomasz will be disappointed at the goal going back to Brighton, definitely.

"But overall since he's come in for Carl, he's

Football

been very solid and the points record with him is very good.

"There will always be mistakes – probably both goalkeepers would be disappointed with the goals they conceded on Saturday."

Jackett is happy Kuszczyk won't be affected by his error.

"He won't let that bother him – I said to him straight after the game on Saturday 'all that matters now is Tuesday night'," said Jackett.

"It's not something he needs to dwell on – he

has to move forward and show the type of consistency and form he's done for us because he's had a high number of very good games and made some excellent saves.

Ikeme is set to be out for another two weeks with a broken bone in his foot.

Meanwhile, Wolves admit they will struggle to keep Under-21s coach Scott Sellars – if Oldham want him as their manager.

The 49-year-old is among the favourites – with former Saddlers coach and current Latics caretaker boss Dean Holden – for the post and it was speculated that he was set to meet Boundary Park officials on Sunday only for talks to be cancelled.

Ricketts may be heading to Sky Blues

WOLVES club captain Sam Ricketts could be on the verge of joining Coventry City.

The Sky Blues have approached Wolves with a view to taking the 33-year-old defender on loan.

Ricketts, who has recently been using his vast experience to coach the first-team defenders, is out of contract this summer and has been made available for loan by head coach Kenny Jackett.

The former Swansea, Hull and Bolton man, who has 52 Wales caps, said last week he needed to move on for the sake of his international career.

Jackett said: "There's been interest (from Coventry). Last week they phoned about him but nothing's been done about it at the moment.

"It's ongoing. I don't know what's going to happen but they've made an enquiry.

"He hasn't spoken to Tony (Mowbray), no."

Asked if there were talks planned, Jackett said: "Not that I know of."

"He's played well and helped the young players and he's done a lot of coaching with the defenders on a day to day basis in recent weeks.

"Sam's choices are does he continue playing as long as possible or does he go into a coaching career?"

"I don't know what Sam's decision is. If he decides to pursue it then the club will talk finances and the length of time but the only thing available at the moment is an emergency loan anyway."

Asked about a potential loan swoop for Ricketts, new Coventry boss Tony Mowbray said: "I have to say watch this space. I'm trying to improve the squad and add players to help win these next few games."

Villa are allocated 31,000 FA tickets

VILLA have been handed an allocation of 31,799 for their FA Cup semi-final – with tickets on sale now.

The club do not yet know whether they will be facing Blackburn or Liverpool at Wembley, or indeed which precise date the tie will take place.

But supporters will still be able to snap up their seats for the big game, which will take place on either April 18 or 19.

Tickets will be priced between £63 and £33 for adults and can be purchased online, by phone or in person at the club's ticket office.

Priority will be given to season ticket holders, with those who have held a season ticket for more than 10 years.

★★★

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketterly, Telford, Thursday, March 19, 2015



Stourbridge 36 Birmingham & Solihull 33 WITH a 36-14 lead on the hour mark Stour again put their supporters through torment.

Shipping three tries they barely hung on to scrape a vital win as they finished with just 13 players on the park.

Frequent handling errors and poorly executed kicks made both sides unable to capitalise on early possession. Bees attacked from a lineout but smart work by Ben Barkley turned the ball over and Gary Dipple spotted space in the Bees' backfield.

He chipped the defensive line and won the footrace to touch it down.

Dipple was straight back in action, spotting a mismatch in defence with the bulky Bees' props lined up in midfield. He found Ben Hughes in support to rumble over for his first try of the season.

Bees' Ian Briggs scored shortly after, shrugging off a tackle attempt as the ball was moved wide.

The Stour pack started to impose themselves, taking two scrums against the head and forcing a penalty under the shadow of the Bees' posts.

With their tails up Stour opted to scrum again, Drew Harper scoring at the base.

Opportunity

With time up and a penalty opportunity bang in front of the posts, Bees outside half Adam Canning opted to kick at goal but shanked it, a miss that would come back to haunt him. Half time 21-7.

A quick tap penalty by ex-Stour scrum half Rod Petty found no.8 Steve Leach in support, he brushed off some flimsy tackle attempts to score.

A Bees defender strayed offside within range of his own posts and Dipple slotted the kick.

They forced a lineout deep in Stour's 22 and went for the catch & drive.

As the maul inched forward their back line ran in to lend assistance, but crucially they failed to deal with Ciaran Moore who stripped the ball.

It was worked to the unmarked Stour threequarters, Nathan Bressington outrunning the cover in a 90m sprint to the corner.

Stour turned over another Bees scrum feed and pressed, after a series of short drives Nigel Mukarati was forced over.

But Bees claimed the restart, a half-break by Canning setting up an attack down the right flank



Stourbridge lock forward Ben Hughes scores his first try of the season against the Bees

which he finished off by taking a return pass.

Rain started to fall as the sky got blacker, doubtless reflecting Stour boss Neil Mitchell's mood. From an unpromising-looking position in their 22 Bees' Charlie Ding fashioned a break, linking with Aquile Smith who tore down the left wing and scored in the corner.

Stour started to cough possession up through handling errors and it got worse when Sione Tu'ipolotu saw yellow for a dangerous tackle.

Bees kicked for the corner where ex-DK Pro Stef Thorp drove over.

They ratcheted up the tempo, centre Steve Johns making it deep into the Stour 22 but they couldn't quite outflank a stretched defence.

Bees looked to have worked an overlap in the right corner where Tom Jarvis' managed to deflect the pass, earning himself a yellow card for a deliberate knock-on and fortunate indeed that the officials didn't call it as a penalty try.

With a two-man advantage Bees went to the corner again but Stour's 13 men held firm.

There was time for the scrum at which Bees threw everything they had, but they were unable to work it wide to take advantage of their superior numbers.

The final whistle brought relief for Stour and desolation for relegation-threatened Bees. Next Saturday Stour have a week off.


Domino's

Stourbridge Industrial Estate,
Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN

01384 374666

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